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THE HOME-MADE WEDDING.

Me fur the home-made weddin'; the good, old-fashioned kind,
Where love an' hope, an' not splendor, are uppermost in the mind;
Where there's jes' the fam'ly preacher—the one we have known fur years;
Some honestly spoken "God-bless-you's," some smiles an' perhaps some tears.
Where every word of the service has a meaning that's deep an' true,
An' a promise is made that is strong enough to last fur a whole life through;
Where there ain't no sneerin' envy that snarles an' mocks an' pretends;
Where the flowers are the simple sort that bloom in the sunshine of home an' friends.

When 'Mandy and me was married—the time is years away;
Yet the memory of it stands as clear as if it was yesterday,
There wasn't no crowd in waitin' to see us as we went past,
It was jes' a home made weddin' that was guaranteed to last.
There wasn't no pomp and glitter. The presents was rather few,
But we spoke from our very inmost hearts when we uttered the words "I do."
An' the skies was blue an' happy; an' the light that shines in the skies
Is no more constant from year to year than the love in 'Mandy's eyes.

—Washington Star.

THE MASKERS.

The great gods in their merriment
Made man a naked thing,
For all the winds of discontent
And thorns of love to sting.

They made his as a chord to thrill,
Vibrant to joy and pain;
They made him as a reed whose will
Is bent by any rain.

They made him as a glass revealed
For every mood to dim,
Then gave him laughter as a shield
Between the world and him;

And gave him robe of words to hide
The naked soul, afraid,
And cloak of lests that none beside
Might know this man they made.

So, hidden 'mongst our kind we press,
That scarce the great gods know
Who wears the mask of happiness
Upon the face of woe.

—McCrea Pickering, in Smart Set.

STEEPLE AFIRE.

It is very rare for a church steeple of any height to be actually burned up while it still keeps its position. Usually

In a church fire the steeple falls long before the flames have reached the upper parts. The accompanying photograph shows the steeple in the very act of burning.

The Beam in His Own Eye.

Dr. Parkhurst was very severe on Dr. Dowie and his methods when conducting his mission recently in Madison Square Garden, but just as he had finished his sermon in the Madison Square Presbyterian church, New York, last Sunday morning, a number of persons in the back of the church got up and went out. Dr. Parkhurst doesn't like to have any one go out. "I don't like to see those people leave," he said, as he pointed toward the doors. "I guess they are more used to going to the theatre than to church." Elijah Dowie objected to the same practice, only in more vehement terms.

The Daughter of a King.

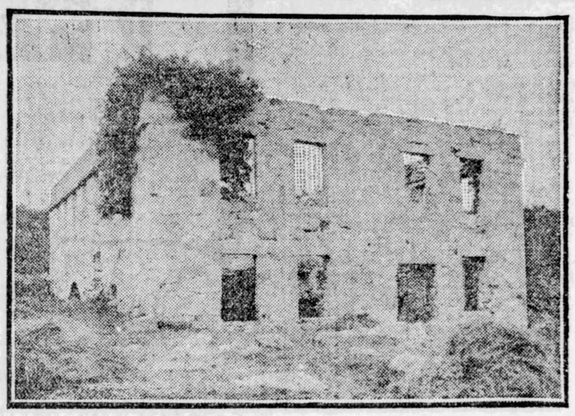
A poor but good woman once called at a house of fashion, and saw two young ladies. They invited her into the drawing room to sit down and converse upon spiritual matters. Their brother, a worldly youth, accidentally rushed in to them, and was greatly surprised at what he saw. His sister at once said: "Don't be surprised; this is a King's Daughter, though she has not yet put on her fine clothes."

Letting Him Down Easy.

"I have a very unpleasant duty to perform," said the chief. "The management desires to dispense with your services."

The office boy heaved a deep sigh of relief. "Gee!" he said, "I t'ought for a minit youse was goin' to fire me."—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

OLDEST MILL IN NEW ENGLAND



A short drive of five miles along the Acushnet River from the thrifty city of New Bedford brings one to a desolate spot, moss overgrown and wildly romantic. Here is to be found the oldest cotton mill in Massachusetts.

From far and wide fair dames were wont to bring their hemp and flax to this mill to be woven into cloth. At that time the crude machinery used at this factory was considered a remarkable step in labor saving devices, and time that was consumed in spinning at the wheel was utilized for more useful purposes.

THE OCEAN NEWSPAPER

Journals Printed on Board Ship Interfere With Restful Existence.

For good or for evil, for better or for worse, the newspaper published on board ship, in some form or other, is a fait accompli. Maritime journalism is still in too immature a state to decide whether it is to be a blessing or a curse, an inestimable convenience to voyagers or a confounded nuisance. While, like its terrene prototype, it will probably develop both good and bad characteristics and possess both advantages and disadvantages, what is quite certain is that it will greatly modify the present conditions of the passenger's life at sea.

The sense of absolute freedom from the ordinary cares and responsibilities of existence, which the restful isolation of a sea voyage conferred, was for most people the principal charm of ocean travel. While a voyage lasted, at all events, it was easy to "put smiling by" all mundane troubles; they might wait our landing, but could not break in from the outside world. For the present, we could devote ourselves with enthusiasm to inhaling the stimulating, health-giving ocean breeze, to satisfying an unusually vigorous appetite with the sumptuous fare provided today on all first-class ships, and to enjoy in cozy nook on deck, in music saloon and smoking room, that genial intercourse that life at sea always promotes.—Cook's Gazette.

No Free Spuds in Chicago.

Potatoes are too free in Chicago eating houses, in the opinion of the Restaurant Keepers' Association. The proprietors are contemplating taking the tubers from the "free list" and turning them from a source of loss to one of profit. This action will follow the association's decision to dispense with music after the last of this week.

While the owners are still groping for light on the potato problem, there is no doubt as to their desires. The first number of the official bulletin asks:

"Did you ever calculate how much money you give away every year in free potatoes? Do you know any good reason why you should give your patrons German fried, boiled, mashed, or any other variety of potatoes with a steak or chop? Isn't it merely an unprofitable custom?"—Chicago Tribune.

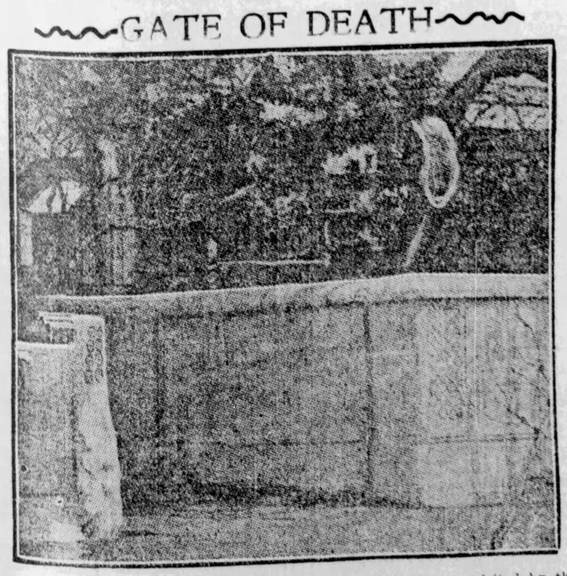
RABBIT WITH TUSKS.

Looks very much like the skull of an animal that existed 'way back in the times when sportsmen lived in caves and went hunting with potential cobblestones and made love by grabbing the lady of

their choice by the back hair and banging her over the head with a club. But it is nothing of the sort.

This is the skull of a rabbit, with tusklike teeth, which was recently trapped by a game keeper. The tusks curved outward and gave the animal a most singular appearance. Such cases are extremely rare.

GATE OF DEATH



In many of the cities of the Far Eastern countries which are visited by the plague it is customary to mark upon the gate posts of the houses the number of deaths which have occurred within. A cross thus indicates some one has died of the bubonic plague; a circle records deaths from yellow fever, and so on. The accompanying illustration shows the door posts of a house which has suffered more than the average number of deaths.

PEANUTS AS FREE LUNCH

Liquor Dealers Find the Experiment a Failure.

Not many days ago the keeper of an up-town liquor saloon introduced a huge cut-glass bowl filled with freshly roasted peanuts as a free lunch. Others followed his example. Now they all admit that the innovation is a failure, and will stop it, says the New York Times.

This change was not actuated by economy. As a matter of fact, a bowl of fresh peanuts kept on the bar all day did not cost the proprietor $6 a day. The men who tried the peanut idea found that a great many regular customers did not like peanuts after a drink, and began to look around for the pickle fork. Those who did like peanuts carried away a full half pint in their coat pocket. Others who liked them remained close by the bowl, eating for half an hour and scattering the hulls all over the floor. The floorman had to come around with a broom every five minutes and raised a dust that drove customers out. Another thing the liquor dealer learned was that a great many men who enjoy a pint of peanuts riding home on the car at night had no use for them in the daytime.

"It costs a lot of money to run a fine saloon in New York nowadays," said the man who tried the peanut experiment first. "I am not speaking of either cost of license, supplies or help. It is the fitting that eats a big hole in the money at the start. When I began business forty years ago, down in Greenwich street, my only outfit for the necessary fittings—a miror behind the bar and a hot-water kettle included—was $50, and the good will of the police. I own twelve bars in New York today, and the last six of them I bought cost me more than $20,000 each to fit up. And I am not the top of the head by a great deal. Some bars, or buffets, as they are called in the up-town district, cost $50,000 to put in shape before one dollar's worth of stuff to drink or smoke or eat was put into them.

"Nor is there so much to show for this display of wealth. The Hoffman House started the costly picture craze, and it has not yet gone out of vogue. Some of the most valuable paintings and etchings in New York are hung behind the bars of saloons. They have morning hours, when women are admitted, but women do not go half so much as they used to. Somehow it never seemed possible to keep half the men out, and then there was gossip.

"Nowadays it is not an infrequent occurrence for a saloonkeeper to loan his entire collection to a club entertainment where women are admitted. I have even seen them in church fairs. The borrowers take full risks of removal and insurance, and the fact that the collection was loaned by Mr. Blank of the well-known Silver Star saloon, at such-and-such a street, is extensively made known. The owner of the pictures gets his money back, all right. Sometimes he makes a good sale to a collector or an agent, who had never heard of his saloon and is willing to pay anything within reason for the picture, who wants it for his gallery.

"A few years ago any man who was prepared to spend $1,000 in fitting up a new saloon went around to various stores and selected what he wanted. Now a contractor comes along and makes his estimate. The liquors are sold from cut-glass bottles, and not from the original bottles displaying the label. If a customer wants to see the real bottle, it is taken from a cupboard and passed to him.

"It is cheaper, in the end, to let a man who knows his business 'design' your bar, as he calls it. You will be surprised to see how much room he can save. All you have to do is to move in your stock and supply the barkeepers and a bouncer who knows his business."

PRIMITIVE FIREMAKER.

Everybody has head of making fire by rubbing two sticks together, but few have any notion as to how it is accomplished. There are various methods practiced by savages in different parts of the world, one of them is shown in the ac-

companying picture. The man, a California Indian, is twirling a stick rapidly between the palms of his hands. By and by the friction of the end of the stick will ignite the particles ground off from another piece of wood, which lies flat on the ground. Some tinder will convert the glow into a flame and soon there will be a fire.

AUTUMN.

The garrulous crows go flapping out of sight,
Where sumacs their ensanguined banners raise;
While on the fence a partridge stands upright
And slides its whistle-shuttle through the haze.

Deep are the dyes of purple, gold, and green,
And sweet all sounds the sylvan ways along;
Yea, all the earth is but a singing scene,
And all the world is but a pictured song!

—Will T. Hale in Atlanta Constitution.

HISTORICAL CHAIR.

One of the chairs used by Bonnie Prince Charlie while in hiding in Scotland is still preserved in Glasgow. The curious piece of furniture belonged to a highland peasant who lived near the cave where the prince was in hiding. Relying on the loyalty of the Scotch

farmer, the prince spent considerable time in the little cottage. A special chair was set apart for him, and this has since been handed down from generation to generation through the family who originally entertained the distinguished fugitive.

TATTOO TRIUMPH.

In England enthusiasts claim that tattooing has at last attained the dignity of a fine art, and as proof that they are not talking wildly they point to the picture which accompanies this story. The artist in this instance had the broad chest of a British officer to work upon, and in due time he produced an admirable and symbolical painting in many

brilliant colors. Naturally his client did not blazon abroad his fine workmanship, and it remained a secret until his death, which took place recently in South Africa.

WORDS WITHOUT RHYME

Some Difficulties the Poets Cannot Overcome.

In a well-known musical comedy the kingly poet of a mythical state makes a frantic demand on his subjects for a rhyme with sarsaparilla. The question calls to mind the surprisingly few words there are in the comparatively harsh English tongue, with its plethoric consonants, for which there are no rhyming equivalents. Sarsaparilla as a manufactured name is hardly a fair example, but there are said to be only three familiar words of every-day speech which loom up ferociously before the student of metrical possibilities. They are silver, month and carpet. Of these silver alone remains absolutely unassailable, for Swinburne has in one of his poems a word of Greek derivation which may be said at a pinch to rhyme with month, and W. S. Gilbert, of "Pinafore" and "Mikado" fame, has in the "Bab Ballads" ingeniously conquered carpet as follows:

One day that Turk he sickened sore,
Which threw him straight into a sharp pet.
He threw himself upon the floor,
And rolled about his carpet.

The same author has also established a record in "Patience" for rhyming unfamiliar words that look extremely formidable to the novice. The verse runs:

When from the poet's plinth,
The amorous calocynth, etc.,

which, although it be very beautiful, is hardly intelligible.

But silver is still obstinate, and the young Musaen who ends his first line with that fatal word had better stick to blank verse.—Philadelphia Record.

AN OVERWORKED WOMAN

Ran the Whole Farm, but That Wasn't the Worst of It.

I stopped to get a glass of milk the other day at a Jersey farmhouse, said the commuter, and the female head of the establishment, who had six children playing around, was inclined to repine at her hard luck in hoving si much work to do.

"I run this whole farm," she remarked, in a tone which indicated that she was ready to resign.

"How many acres have you?" I inquired.

"A hundred and forty."

"Got any stock?"

"Ten head of cattle, two cows, six hogs and work horses for the place."

"And you run the whole business?" I asked.

"Indeed, I do; every hide an' hair of it," she sighed.

"Don't you hire some help?"

"Of course, but 'tain't hired help that takes the load offen one's body."

There was some philosophy in that, and I paused a minute.

"Haven't you got a husband?" I then asked, sympathetically.

"Yes," she said, sternly, "but, you see, I have to run him, too."

An Odd Compensation for Rain.

But touching the compensations of this great and continuous rainfall I will not speak of flushed sewers, of springs replenished after five dry seasons, of activity in the boot trade or overtime among the umbrella menders. No; the one great benefit which counterbalances the wetness of the world is that the night cats stay at home. You may smile as you read this in broad daylight; but wait till dewy eve—showery eve, that is, or delugy eve—closes in, and your head falls upon the pillow in rest that is made sweeter and more complete by the sound of the falling waters on the window pane. You will catch yourself wondering whether that awful beast that loves the cat next door is coming along the wall tonight. He is not; it rains. In 1903 you will find, or rather I have found, that I broke the record for unbroken sleep. Cats do not like wet.—London Outlook.

He Owed No One Anything.

When the Rev. Henry Blunt was dying, the doctor said to him: "Sir, you are drawing nigh to the grave, and I think if you have any accounts to settle, you had better settle them."

The dying minister said: "I have no accounts to settle; I owe nothing to man, and my Savior has paid all my debts to God."

The Whip Hand

A Tale of the Pine Country

By Samuel Merwin

Author of "The Road to Frontenac." Joint author of "Calumet K."

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"If it is the writing," she said, with quiet, bitter scorn, "you know I have letters enough now." Yes, she had, and he knew it: there had been blue moments in his life when he would have given a great deal to get those letters back—letters relating to money matters, most of them; explanations why certain sums were still unpaid, perhaps; letters sent back into another life, a life which had gone under Mr. Bigelow's feet as he mounted to higher things. And she added: "You needn't sign your name, if you'd rather not."

Yes, it was time to close the interview. He was not enjoying it at all—was even willing to concede a point in order to be rid of her. So he said shortly:

"Very well, I will see him at noon and let you know by the morning delivery if he has a place for you." She turned to go but he detained her. "Here—wait! I will tell him that you are a cousin of mine. Do you understand?"

She made no reply to this, but simply went out as swiftly and silently as possible. She was evidently as glad as he to be through with it. And Mr. Bigelow, after glancing at the Pine Lands correspondence and after a look at his watch, put on his hat and coat and left the office. It was not yet his lunch time, but when bent upon a benevolent errand Mr. Bigelow would hear of no delay; and recalling that Mr. Murray was usually on the point of leaving the club when he entered, he was willing even to hasten his lunch in order to make sure of a chat with him.

And chat they did, those two powerful, public-spirited ones, over their cigars, of the questions of the day, handled as only masters of commerce could handle them; until at length—this from Mr. Bigelow, lighting a fresh cigar and speaking casually over his hollowed hands:

"By the way, Murray, I have a cousin who is in a bad way—husband dead, and some children, and that sort of thing. I want to do a little something for her if I can. Could you give her any work?"

"I'm afraid the best place I could offer would be behind the counter in my North Side store at three dollars a week or so."

"She'd be grateful for anything. It's a matter of keeping alive."

Mr. Murray was always glad of an opportunity to oblige Mr. Bigelow.

"Send her around, with a letter, and I will do the best I can for her."

And thus did Mr. Bigelow free himself from an entangling alliance. He had now given the woman an opportunity to prove her worth; if after this she should stumble into dark ways, there would be only herself to blame. It had cost him considerable effort, to say nothing of his time; but had it not been worth while?

CHAPTER II—LOW LIFE.

"Dear Mr. Halloran: Won't you come down to the Settlement Friday evening? The young men's class and the girls' class are going to entertain themselves, and Mr. Appleton Le Duc has promised to help them. I want to have another talk with you about George. We have heard nothing from him for a week, and I am afraid he is in trouble. After such encouragement as he has given us I don't like to let go of him.

"Be sure to come if you can.

"Very sincerely yours,
"MARGARET DAVIES."

The above note accounts for the presence of Halloran and Le Duc (he of the nimble legs) in a suburban train, on that Friday evening, bound for Clybourn and the Settlement. A few seats behind them sat Miss Davies, escorted by Mr. Babcock, a young business man who seemed to be going in heartily for charity work at this time. Le Duc was talking earnestly with Halloran. Apparently a momentous question had arisen in his life, and the young man beside him, who had had plenty of experience in earning his own living, who could steer a lifeboat in a boiling sea, whose generalship alone, it was conceded by one party in college, had won the Chicago game that fall, was, he felt sure, the best counselor to be found in the difficult task of guiding a life straight toward its destiny.

"I don't know another fellow I could come to with a question like this, Jack; but you understand these things; you know life. You've learned things already that the rest of us spend the most of our lives finding out. Now what would you say—how far do you think a man ought to go in sticking to the idea of an education?" Le Duc's "education," for several years now, had consisted of the study of elocution, with an occasional peck at English Literature or the French language, and a few, a very few, disastrous examinations. "I've got an offer to quit college right now to go in as second comedian with the Pooh Bah company. They offer thirty dollars a week to begin with, with every prospect for a future. It is a rising company, you see—a sure thing. They are as safe as the First National bank. If that were just the work I wanted, I couldn't do better."

Halloran was sitting back with his hat down on his forehead, listening conscientiously, but losing a word now and then, thanks to the roar of the train.

"You see, old chap, I set my mind on Shakespeare when I first came to college. I decided then it would be Shakespeare or nothing with me. A man's got to have a goal, you know; he's got to aim high or he will never get anywhere; and my goal has been Shakespeare. But the question is just this: Ought I to give up this offer, when it may be my chance to get a good start on the stage? I might be able to work up into Shakespeare by keeping at this for awhile, and making a professional acquaintance, and saving up money. Men have done it, you know. What do you say?"

He evidently really expected an answer, so Halloran gave it to him.

"I am afraid you'll have to decide that for yourself, Apples. I you care enough for first-class work to stick it out in college and then take your chances, you ought to do it: if you don't, take this. That's all I can say."

With which casual conversation did an evening begin that later promised to influence considerably the lives of several members of the party.

They found a crowd of ragged boys and girls at the Settlement. Le Duc was to read for them; but he found himself fairly eclipsed by the performances of two of their own number, one a youthful dancer with a wizened face and remarkably thin legs, named Jimmy McGinnis, the other a dark-eyed girl, one Lizzie Bigelow, who sang some popular songs in a really good natural voice.

This girl made an immediate impression on Apples. At the close of her first song he stopped applauding long enough to say confidentially to Halloran, "Remarkable what a lot of talent you find among these people. That girl ought to be in the profession. Really a stunning girl—and clever, awfully clever. Splendid! Splendid!" he exclaimed again, turning toward her as she came into the hall, and applauding vigorously.

She laughed and shook her head, but made no reply. She evidently liked applause.

"You must have studied—to sing like that," Le Duc went on.

She flushed with pleasure, but only shook her head again and sat down on the stairs to listen to the next recitation.

As Le Duc stepped out, bowing with his easy, good-natured smile, Miss Davies saw her opportunity to speak to Halloran. At the beginning of the evening she had talked a moment with Lizzie Bigelow, but with unsatisfactory results as her troubled expression showed. She now led the way to a sitting-room behind the stairs. For a short space they were silent—this young woman who, with the buoyancy of youth, with sanguineness hardly justified by the facts of the black city that was pulsing around her, had plunged into its darkness the feeble light of her hopes—and this young man who knew so well the difficulty of climbing up from sloth and incompetency and vicious ignorance that he was willing to help. He put his hands in his pockets and stood waiting for her to begin. He liked to look at her, she was so earnest and unconscious of herself; perhaps, too, because she was well worth looking at, with her clear, delicate skin now a little flushed and the masses of brown hair above her forehead.

"I wrote you," she began, "that we have lost track of George. He was here as usual a week ago Wednesday, but then he disappeared. Lizzie, his sister, says they have no idea where he is; and I don't think she cares very much. She says he can look out for himself, and that is more than they can do for him at home. Now what are we to do?"

"Have you seen his mother?"

"No—not yet. She always rebuffs me. If she were more like our other women it would be easier. I wanted to talk with you first, and see if we couldn't think of some way to find him."

"But we have no clue. She might be able to give us a hint. Even to learn something about his loafing places would be a start—something to work from."

"I suppose—if she would tell. She is proud, you know. But we must do something. I can't leave that boy wandering around the city like this. The first thing we will hear of him in jail, and after that——" She ended with a shake of the head.

At a thought that entered his mind Halloran smiled slightly. "Have you talked with Jimmie?" he asked.

"Jimmie McGinnis?" She had to smile, too.

"He might tell something. One always knows what the other is up to. I can't think of any other way."

She looked earnestly at him as she asked:

"Will you try it—if I bring him here?"

He nodded, and soon she returned with him.

Jimmie looked from one to the other, his small eyes devoid of expression, his insecurable thin face as innocent as that of a sleeping baby.

"Sit down, Jimmie," said Halloran, "Miss Davies and I want to talk with you about George."

Jimmie seated himself and waited respectfully, his thin legs dangling off the floor, his hands clasped meekly in his lap. He was always willing to be talked to—rather enjoyed it, in fact—was particularly fond of moral lectures; had a keen little mind somewhere behind his narrow forehead, and could bring himself to discuss moral questions with his lady teachers, showing all the symptoms of an eager water-lily striving upward from its dark bed toward the light of day. Miss Davies he understood perfectly and really liked, in a way. She was good—and why not? Who wouldn't be good with plenty to eat and wear, with fathers and mothers, and grand suburban homes with real trees about them (he had been taken out there once for some fresh air, on which occasion he had seen a cow for the first time in his life). But he was a little afraid of Halloran, and inclined to grow secretive in his presence. To sum him up, Jimmie was already launched upon a professional career—he sold scorecards at the base ball park—and he fully realized the importance of his place in life; even hoped some day to be a manager and walk out to the players' bench before the game in a checked suit, announce the battery of the day, and toss out the new ball from a capacious pocket, a new ball in a red box with a white seal around it.

"Now, Jimmie, do you know where he is?"

Jimmie shook his head.

"No, sir. I heard some one say he hadn't been around for a week."

Halloran threw a quick glance at Miss Davies; but it was not too quick for Jimmie.

"He has run off, Jimmie, and we want to find him. It don't make any difference why he went. Anybody's likely to get into trouble now and then; and I'm not going to ask any questions. But if he lost his job or got into trouble, I think we could help him."

"Yes, sir, I'm sure you could," Jimmie replied gratefully; and what little expression there was in his face said plainly enough, "Don't I know how you have helped me?" And then he added in eagerness to assist, "I could stop at the box factory, if you like, and see if he ain't working any more."

"All right, I wish you would. Tell us about it Monday at class. That's all."

At this Jimmie got soberly down from the chair and went out, leaving Miss Davies and Halloran to look at each other expressively.

"Well, what do you think?" said she.

"He is going straight to warn him. Something is the matter. We must try his mother now. And we ought to do it quickly—before Monday."

Miss Davies mused for a moment. "We could hardly get there tonight—we might go tomorrow afternoon, when she gets back from her work. I will arrange to have dinner here."

Halloran nodded; and they returned to the hall.

Jimmie was dancing again when they reached the parlor door, to music by one of the resident teachers who had volunteered to take the place of Miss Davies. Apples had disappeared and Lizzie Bigelow also. Miss Davies looked around for them; then, realizing after a moment that Jimmie's feet were not the only ones that were stepping in time to the music, she glanced up the stairway. A laugh from the upper hall and the fling of a skirt at the head of the stairs brought a puzzled expression to her face. But the explanation came in a moment. Just as Jimmie stopped dancing and was turning toward the hall, Apples came running down the stairs, a cane in his hand, and after him Lizzie Bigelow, laughing, nearly breathless, and with a heightened color.

"Oh, Miss Davies," Apples exclaimed with all his good-natured assurance on the surface, "Miss Bigelow and I are going to do a cake-walk, and we want you to play for us—a good, lively march, with a lot of jump in it."

Miss Davies looked at him surprised, then at Lizzie; finally, in distress, she turned to Halloran. But he found nothing to say. Before Miss Davies could collect her wits and think of some excuse Apples was blundering on.

"Play the one you did for the boy—that'll do splendidly. We've been practicing upstairs, and it goes mighty well. We'd better do it now, before we get our steps mixed. Miss Bigelow says she'd rather do this than the song she is down to sing—didn't' you?' he added, appealing to her.

She assented rather shamefacedly, and Miss Davies gave up. There was no rule against cake-walks, and she herself had invited Le Duc to entertain the boys and girls; so she concealed her dislike for this juvenile way of overstepping boundaries and went to the piano. Halloran was downright sorry for her, but he did not see what he could do.

CHAPTER III—GEORGE AND HIS TROUBLES.

Halloran foresaw that it might be late Saturday evening before Miss Davies and he could return to Evanston, so he arranged with another member of the crew to stand his watch from ten to midnight; and then, knowing nothing of what might be before them, these two young people set out on their search for George.

Picture a tenement far out on the North Side, one of thousands of smoke-colored buildings, somewhere on an obscure street that was discouragingly like dozens of other streets. Without the tenement an electric light (for it was six o'clock and dark on this autumn day) threw its flare on an uneven cedar-block pavement, worn into ruts and holes that had given up, hopeless of repair, to mud and filth; on obscure little tailor shops and masquerade-costume shops, and dirty tobacco shops with windows hung full of questionable prints; on an itinerant popcorn-and-peanut man, who had stationed his glass-enclosed cart on the corner and was himself sitting on the curbstone, the picture of disgust with life; on a prosperous red-brick corner building, that shed light and comfort from half a dozen broad windows, announcing itself by its curtained inner door and its black-and-gilt signs to be Hoffman's sample room. So much for the neighborhood. Within the tenement, up three flights of stairs, was an apartment of two rooms where lived Mrs. Craig with her daughter and her son, who bore the name of Bigelow.

Lizzie was sewing; her mother, back home for supper in the intermission between the work of afternoon and evening, was taking off her hat.

"Is the fire going, Lizzie?"

The girl shook her head without looking up. "How did I know you were coming home so early?"

"It is six o'clock?"

"Well, how do you suppose I'm ever going to get my work done if I have to make fires for you? Where's George, I'd like to know! That's his business anyway."

Mrs. Craig, herself wondering where George was, went to the next room and built the fire herself.

A few moments later Halloran knocked at the door, and Miss Davies and he were admitted. And while Miss Davies was opening the subject, trying with the utmost delicacy to obtain the confidence of this woman, trying to show by simple, honest words how sincerely she and Halloran were interested in George, another boy, a small, wizened-faced boy with thin legs, was hiding in a doorway across the street, watching with keen little eyes for their exit and pondering with a keen little mind on their probably next move.

Miss Davies was beginning to wonder if she had not overestimated the difficulty of talking with Mrs. Craig. Or was it the present topic that made it a little easier? For she had come now with no offers of food, or coal for the fires; but only to talk about George, to see if she and the young man with her might not, by giving their time and interest, make the search easier. And the main difficulty semed now to be that the woman knew no more about it than they did.

"It was early last week," she explained, speaking quietly in a voice that had been brought to a dead level by habitual restraint. "He went off to work as usual, after dinner, and said he would be back to supper. I don't know where he can be. He has never been a bad boy."

Lizzie, now that so much trouble was going on about George, began to feel unusually sorrowful herself—was even moved to tears, and had to go into the room and bustle about getting supper ready before she could bring her feelings under control.

"Mr. Halloran thought the best thing would be to go out and search for him," said Miss Davies. "And he thought you could help——" She turned to him and finished by saying, "Won't you explain to Mrs. Craig?"

"Can you tell us," he responded, "of some place in the neighborhood that George has been in the habit of going to—some place where he has friends?"

Mrs. Craig shook her head. "No; when he was not working he was almost always at home."

"But he surely had acquaintances. You see, Mrs. Craig, we must have some place to start from."

She thought for a moment. "No; so far as I know, there was only one man in the neighborhood who took the least interest in him. And he wouldn't know anything about this. We have not lived here so very long——"

"Who is this man?"

"Mr. Hoffman, on the corner. He has been kind to George, once or twice."

Halloran rose, saying aside to Miss Davies, "I will speak to him and come back here," and went out.

He found a stout German behind the bar in the corner saloon who proved, upon inquiry, to be Hoffman himself. He was a substantial sort of man, speaking excellent English, and representing, if one could judge from the neat, well-stocked bar, the clean floor, the geraniums in the windows, and the general air of thrift and order, what he might have been pleased to call a decent saloon. Halloran began without preliminary by asking Hoffman if he knew George Bigelow.

The saloon-keeper rested both hands on the bar and looked across it, scrutinizing him closely before answering.

"Yes, there is a boy of that name around here."

"He disappeared from home last week and his family are worried about him. I have been told that you might help me find him."

Hoffman shook his head, still watching him closely. "No," he said; "I know nothing about him."

"Has he been about here at all lately?"

"No; it is two weeks since I saw him."

The honest German face had the word suspicion plainly written on it. Halloran saw that he was not getting at the man at all, so he leaned on the bar and explained himself.

"I have come from the University Settlement. George has been at class there regularly until lately. His teachers believe in him and want to help him. They are afraid now that he has got into trouble and is afraid to come back. Do you know anything about it?"

For reply Hoffman asked:

"What is your name?"

"Halloran."

"You come from the Settlement?"

"Yes."

"Have you seen Mrs. Craig?"

"I have just come from there. Miss Davies, George's teacher, is with her now."

The big man slowly turned it over in his mind. Finally he said:

"I will tell you all I know, but it is not very much. There is another little boy named McGinnis who is around with him most of the time. The McGinnis boy worked at the ball park until the season closed last week. For ten days now he has been coming here for a glass of beer pretty often, and he always carries away the lunch. You say you want to help George."

Halloran nodded.

"Well, I will tell you what I think." He used the word "think," but his expression showed that he knew pretty nearly the facts. "McGinnis has an uncle, a boat-builder, who has a place under the Wells street bridge. You go down there and you will learn more than I can tell you."

Halloran thanked him and returned to Miss Davies. Mrs. Craig, he found, was getting ready to go back to work. They were all waiting anxiously for him.

"I think we are started right," he said cheerily, addressing the mother. "I will be back later in the evening and report progress." To Miss Davies he said: "You would rather wait at the Settlement, I suppose. I shan't be back probably before eight or nine o'clock."

"Why," she said in a low voice as they were passing out the door, "don't you want me to go with you?"

"I am afraid not. I could hardly take you prowling around the wharves at night." And he told her, as they went down the stairs behind Mrs. Craig, what directions the saloon-keeper had given him. They were still talking about it when they joined the woman on the sidewalk; and then the three of them walked together to the second corner, talking it over and over again. For Mrs. Craig was beginning to discover that the young people were downright interested in her and in her boy. There was no gracious down-reaching here, no lending a kind hand to the unfortunate; but just a young woman who believed she could help, and a young man who knew a little of what it all meant; in short, here were two real persons who said little and meant more. She was not afraid, as she looked at them, that they would pray for her, loudly and zealously, kneeling on the floor of her own tenement rooms. And she was inclined to wonder, looking out at them across her own sea of troubles, what life was to hold for them.

Something of this last thought got into her manner as she took their hands at parting; indeed, her reserve so nearly broke that she gave them—not singly, but the two of them together—a look that brought a faint blush to the young woman's cheek and to her mind other thoughts than George and his difficulties—thoughts that disturbed her a little later when she and Halloran were walking toward the Settlement, so foolish and trivial were they beside the realities of the scene that had passed—thoughts that were resolutely put from her mind.

At the Settlement steps she lingered a moment.

"I wish I were going with you," she said, hesitating. "There is pride in the family, and George has his share of it. If you—if he should think you blamed him or looked down on him, he would

HALF DOG, HALF GOAT.

One of the most beautiful hybrid crosses of the animal kingdom ever seen is owned by Hosh Mills, of Hartford City, Ind. The animal is a cross of dog and goat. The mother is an Irish setter. The animal resembles a dog in many ways, but it has a coat of as fine silky texture as any Angora in the United States.

The animal is a great curiosity, and people come many miles to see it.

Prominent stockmen claim it to be the first hybrid cross of this nature on record, and they are watching the general results of the cross with much interest.

THOUSANDS HAVE KIDNEY TROUBLE AND DON'T KNOW IT

To Prove what Swamp-Root, the Great Kidney Remedy, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of "Blade" May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Free by Mail.

Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for more sickness and suffering than any other disease, therefore, when through neglect or other causes, kidney trouble is permitted to continue, fatal results are sure to follow.

Your other organs may need attention--but your kidneys most, because they do most and need attention first.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy, because as soon as your kidneys begin to get better they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

The mild and immediate effect of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney and bladder remedy, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. Swamp-Root will set your whole system right, and the best proof of this is a trial.

14 East 120th St., New York City.
Dear Sir: Oct. 15th, 1903.

"I had been suffering severely from kidney trouble. All symptoms were on hand; my power or strength and power had left me; I could hardly drag myself along. Even my mental capacity was giving out, and often I wished to die. It was then I saw an advertisement of yours in a New York paper, but would not have paid any attention to it, had it not promised a sworn guarantee with every bottle of your medicine, asserting that your Swamp-Root is purely vegetable, and does not contain any harmful drugs. I am sixty years old and four months old, and with a good conscience I can recommend Swamp-Root to all sufferers from kidney troubles. Four members of my family have been using Swamp-Root for four different kidney diseases, with the same good results."

With many thanks to you, I remain,
Very truly yours,
ROBERT BERNER.

You may have a sample bottle of this famous kidney remedy, Swamp-Root, sent free by mail, postpaid, by which you may test its virtues for such disorders as kidney, bladder and uric acid diseases, poor digestion, being obliged to pass your water frequently night and day, smarting or irritation in passing, brick-dust or sediment in the urine, headache, backache, lame back, dizziness, sleeplessness, nervousness, heart disturbance due to bad kidney trouble, skin eruptions from bad blood, neuralgia, rheumatism, diabetes, bloating, irritability, wornout feeling, lack of ambition, loss of flesh, sallow complexion, or Bright's disease.

If your water, when allowed to remain undisturbed in a glass or bottle for twenty-four hours, forms a sediment or settling or has a cloudy appearance, it is evidence that your kidneys and bladder need immediate attention.

Swamp-Root is the great discovery of Dr. Kilmer, the eminent kidney and bladder specialist. Hospitals use it with wonderful success in both slight and severe cases. Doctors recommend it to their patients and use it in their own families, because they recognize in Swamp-Root the greatest and most successful remedy.

Swamp-Root is pleasant to take and is for sale at drug stores the world over in bottles of two sizes and two prices—fifty cents and one dollar. Remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

EDITORIAL NOTICE.—If you have the slightest symptoms of kidney or bladder trouble, or if there is a trace of it in your family history, send at once to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., who will gladly send you by mail, immediately, without cost to you, a sample bottle of Swamp-Root and a book containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women cured. In writing, be sure to say that you read this generous offer in The Toledo "Weekly Blade."

MY LADY'S DOG.

ELIZABETH AYRES.

I'm Ginger, My Lady's dog, and I am very smart and bright. I've found out that everything Charlie says in this house is just right. And because My Lady thinks so, I think so, too, but there are some things I cannot understand. Probably it is because I am such a young dog. When I am older I shall know more.

I did not always live here. I was a present from Charlie to My Lady. I forget just where I did come from, only I know I had a mother, but I never see her now. Charlie took me away from her when I was a baby. We were a large family, seven of us including my mother. He looked us all over and then chose me. He said I was "the best in the bunch." Mother growled when he lifted me in his hands, and cried when she saw him carrying me away. I cried, too, because mother did. I did not know then I should never see her again.

Charlie put me in a dark box and pretty soon I fell asleep. I was only a baby, you know. I slept a long time and when I woke up I was in a place I had never seen before and I seemed to be the only dog there was in the house. They were all out of dogs just then and needed me, I guess.

Charlie gave me to some one who acted awful glad I had come. She held me in her arms and said: "Isn't he the dearest, sweetest, cunningest, little thing in the world! B'ess um dog heart!" She was My Lady. I liked her right off, and now I love her so hard, it almost stops my breath.

When Charlie gave me to her, she whispered something that sounded like "you dear boy," and Charlie acted as if he thought she meant him. I've discovered since then that men are very conceited. He came closer to My Lady than I thought he should and I barked as loud as I could to tell him to keep away. They thought I was funny and laughed. Charlie said: "He's going to make a fierce watchdog. I shall feel that you are well protected if I ever have to leave you alone after we are married." Then My Lady squeezed me so tight I almost broke. And she laughed a little, soft laugh and whispered, "B'ess um heart," again. I don't know what "married" means, but I think it is something good to eat, they acted so happy.

They talked a long time about me and I learned I am a thoroughbred bull-terrier and perfectly beautiful. My Lady said so. Charlie insisted that my feet did not fit me and my hind legs were crooked, but I was not interested when he talked that way, so I fell asleep in My Lady's arms. If things happen you do not like, just fall asleep and when you wake up everything is right. That's the way I always do.

They must have talked about me all the time I was sleeping because when I came awake, I heard My Lady saying: "I'm going to name him Ginger." The name sounded pretty to me the way she spoke it. I yipped as politely as I could to let her know I understood. My, how she did squeeze me, and Charlie squeezed us both, and I yipped again and wriggled, everybody was so glad. It is very pleasant to be perfectly beautiful.

Pretty soon it was dark. Charlie was gone and My Lady put me to bed in a basket where there was something she called a blanket. The blanket did not seem to love me like my mother and it was not nearly so soft and warm. I had to cry. I was so cold and lonely. You see there were seven of us where I used to live. The blanket never did a thing to comfort me, but My Lady did. She came right away and smoothed my head and covered me until I was warm and went to sleep. After that I cried every night so My Lady would come. That was when I was a baby and did not know any better.

I've fixed that old blanket since then. Every time I remember how cruel it acted, I pull it out of the basket and drag it all over the house. I've shaken it full of holes and I growl every time I see it. When Charlie hears me, he says to My Lady, "Ginger's great on working the growler." You see how smart I am.

Well, I've always had a happy time in this house. I'm perfectly beautiful and My Lady is perfectly lovely. I know I am beauti ul because My Lady tells me so every day. She says like this: "Is um the most beautiful dogums on earth! Yes um is, there never was anything so beautiful before. Ums just prides of households and joys of hearts."

It is very pleasant to be perfectly beautiful and so happy. I love My Lady.

Sometimes I am rather trying. I bark at strange people and I've done a great deal of damage. I chew handkerchiefs and eat rubber overshoes. Rubber is so good to cut teeth on. There's one thing in this house I just hate. They call it a rug. It has fur on it and a tail, and a big head and glass eyes. I cannot make it squeal, no matter how much I bite and worry it. I've pulled out its tail a dozen times, and once I bit off its ear and dug out one of its eyes. It never hollored! It makes me so mad I've barked myself to pieces at it. Some day I'll drag it off and lose it where it never can get back again. I hate a stupid beast that will neither fight nor holler. Charlie encourages me to torment the thing. "Sick 'em, Ginger," that's what he says.

"Charlie, you must not teach him such tricks," that's what My Lady says, but her voice sounds like laughing and her eyes are all smiling and tender. Neither of us fellows pay any attention when she scolds. Oh, dear, how I do love My Lady —and so does Charlie.

Something is going to happen I do not understand. One day when I and My Lady and Charlie were together, he picked me up by the scruff of my neck and pinched my ears. I dislike to have my ears pinched, it hurts, and it is so undignified to be lifted by my neck. I bore it quietly though, because Charlie belongs to My Lady, and I would not hurt him on her account.

He said: "Ginger must have his ears clipped."

My Lady said—exclaimed, I think you call it—"Oh, no, Charlie, he's pretty as he is, and I don't want it done."

Charlie told her: "Why, of course his ears must be clipped. He's a thoroughbred pup and must be right. They always clip a bull terrier's ears. I'll take him and have it done; you need not know anything about it until it is over. I would not hurt the kid for the world, but he must have his ears clipped."

I was sitting on the floor between them wagging my tail and feeling happy. Then I saw from the way My Lady looked she was sorry about something. Her eyes were all shiny and her lips were trembling. I jumped into her lap and tried to tell her not to be sorry. I did not understand, but I wanted to tell her I knew she would not let me be hurt, and Charlie said he wouldn't, either. I was not afraid. My voice would not say words. I could only make a noise like grunting and lick My Lady's hands. She knew what I was trying to do and snuggled me in her arms until Charlie said he was jealous. I suppose he wanted to be snuggled, too.

They talked a long time more after that. I was sleepy and took a nap, but I heard My Lady say in a sorry voice, "If you think it must be done, Charlie, but please don't let me know until it is over."

I wonder what they were talking about. Everything Charlie says is just right in this house. My Lady thinks so and she knows. Anyway, I love My Lady and she loves me. I am not afraid. I wonder what is going to happen.

* * * * * * *

I know now. Charlie took me away today when My Lady was gone. I thought he was taking me out for a walk and I was so glad to go, because when My Lady is away, I never do anything but wait for her to come home. Charlie took me in the street and to a place where there was a man who did something terrible to my ears. Part of them are gone. He cut them off. I was not expecting to be hurt and was cut before I knew it. The pain made me lose my senses and I tried to run away. They held me. Then they clipped my other ear. I screamed. Charlie petted me and said, "Poor Ginger, poor boy." I would have bitten him, only he belongs to My Lady.

He carried me home with my ears bleeding and stinging. When My Lady saw me she cried and held me in her arms. Charlie told her, "He will get your clothes all bloody."

"I don't care," she sobbed. "He's my dear, little Ginger and I've let him be mutilated, and why? What is the use of his suffering?"

She was crosser to Charlie than I ever saw her before, and he looked worried and sorry. I put my head on her shoulder and tried to tell her not to feel so badly. She smoothed me with her soft hand, and I kept still, though the pain in my ears was scorching.

I want to hide and go to sleep. Being a dog, sometimes its hard to understand. I love My Lady, but it hurts—it hurts!

Garden of Sculptured Trees.

After all, there are certain things that even American money cannot buy, and amongst these is a "topiary" garden, which is the quaint name by which these English gardens are known which are composed of yew trees clipped so as to represent animals, furniture and other things. "Topiary" gardens are only found attached to the houses and castles of old aristocratic families in England, and the finest garden of clipped or sculptured trees in England is that owned by the Earl of Harrington at Elvaston Castle, Derbyshire, and which is pictured in the accompanying photograph.

If the richest man in the world desired to possess a complete garden of sculptured trees, he would be unable to gratify his wish, for it takes three generations at least to grow and clip a yew or box tree into the fantastic shapes favored by tree sculptors. This fashion was introduced into England about the period of Elizabeth, but it did not become a craze until the reign of William and Mary, when most of the nobles had their gardens laid out in this style. The fashion continued until about 1852, when the rage set in for landscape gardening, and most of the topiary gardens were uprooted and destroyed. Hence, the few that survive today are of the greatest value and rarity.

IMPROVISED TURKEY.

A small company of Yankees had taken up their temporary residence in a far off odd corner of Northern Canada, because of the possibilities of great electrical development from the falls in the St. Maurice River. There were nine people who wished to celebrate Thanksgiving with a dinner, but found it very difficult to get material together for such a feast.

There were no pumpkins to be had, and almost no vegetables. Even turkeys seemed impossible to obtain. One of the women of the party did obtain two very small ones from nearly a hundred miles away, and kept the secret of having them. The only possible chance of there being enough to serve the company was to carve them and serve from the kitchen.

The women placed an improvised turkey on the table in front of the gentleman of the house where the dinner was served, which was the cabbage of the picture. They sewed shoe buttons for eyes and placed notched red flannel for comb and the tail feathers of a turkey.

Sanitary Milking Apparatus

With the recent report of a state health board officia that an epidemic of fever in one of our largest cities could be traced directly to a case in the family of a milk dealer in that locality, the urgent necessity for sanitary inspection of the milk supply is again made apparent to even those individuals who are rather inclined to scoff at such advanced and scientific theories. No doubt, the time will come when all milk will have to be sterilized before being offered for sale, but even should that desirable condition of affairs

be reached, it will still be obligatory upon the milkman to see that no opportunity is afforded for the contact of the lacteal fluid with contaminated atmosphere in the stable. Probably the best way in which this can be accomplished is by the aid of the pneumatic milking machine here illustrated. It is so arranged as to not only milk the cows automatically, but also incloses the milk in an airtight receptacle as long as it is in the proximity of the animal. This is accomplished by a reservoir suspended overhead and connected with the teat cups by a short section of hose. By means of a vacuum created in the pipe to which the reservoir is attached the milk is drawn from the teats and deposited in the receptacle, whence it can be removed to the creamery for further treatment before being placed on sale.

BOKHARA MELONS.

To the observant traveler in the Orient few sights afford more interest than the bazars of the melon sellers in Bokhara, capital of Bokhara or Bukhara—spell it to suit yourself—a khanate of Central Asia under Russian influence.

Very careful, indeed, of his wares is

the melon merchant of the East. The fruit, as will be seen in the picture, is carefully suspended in cords, and the beauty of each melon is poetically dilated upon by the merchant whenever the eye of a potential customer rests upon it.

Matter of Taste.

Meeker—Our baby has a natural taste for music.

Bleeker—Why, he isn't two years old yet, is he?

Meeker—No, but he's got nearly all the polish gnawed off the lower half of the piano.—Chicago News.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answers.

The following questions are submitted to readers for answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

I want to make a fish pond to be supplied with water by windmill. What is the best kind of fish for such a pond? I suppose some of the readers of The Blade have had some experience in this line and can give information.—C., Halstead, Kan.

Can any readers tell what is the matter with my bees? They made plenty of honey up to three years ago. Since then they only make honey enough for themselves. They seem to be working all through the summer and swarm all night, but make no honey.

I would like for some of your many readers to furnish a remedy for a valuable mare that was bitten by a boar on both front and hind legs. He tore her badly. Her legs are much swollen up to her body and full of poison. It has been done nearly a week and I cannot get anything to do her any good. She is getting very stiff. Any information received through your valuable paper will be greatly appreciated. I have been a subscriber for your paper for a long time and would not be without it.—R., Deersville, O.

What is the proper way to measure hay in the stack to get the number of cubic feet and tons, and what is the measurement called the government rule? —C., California.

Can you or some of your large family of readers inform me through your columns how swamp muck or peat is prepared for fire?—H., Little Valley, N. Y.

Advertising Questions.

Editor Farmstead—Will some reader of the Toledo Blade please inform me by letter or card where I can secure the white English Suffolk hog?—T. D., Iowa.

We print the above to call attention to the fact that the editor of the Farmstead (nor those of any other department of the paper) is not allowed to answer such questions, nor to print any requests for replies. The above is a straight advertisement and should have been accompanied by payment. Do not expect the free insertion of any requests where you can buy anything or where you can sell anything. All such requests are advertisements and must be paid for.

Raising Mushrooms.

Editor Farmstead:—Can you give me any information as to where I can find any book or paper that tells how to raise mushrooms, how to make the beds and where one can find what they call the bricks that take the place of seeds, as I know there are no seeds. I want to raise some. Please answer through your paper to S., Springboro, O.

A few weeks ago a similar question was printed, and the following answer thereto will answer you as well. Seedsmen sell the bricks of mushroom spawn. Addresses not given of dealers, because that is advertising:

Editor Farmstead:—M., of Trilby, Ohio, inquiries for a method of raising mushrooms in your issue of Nov. 26. The following may interest him as well as others:

Mushroom growing as a business, or as a side issue, is a profitable undertaking for anyone who has a cellar at his disposal. The cellar should be kept at a temperature of from 60 to 70 degrees, and well ventilated, as plenty of fresh air is essential to the enterprise. Arrangements by which the soil can be kept moist must be available. Good manure, rich in phosphates, must be used for the foundation of the bed, which is built preferably on a dirt floor. Two loads will be necessary for a bed 15 feet long and 3 feet wide. The beds should be built in conical shape, starting from a 3-foot base and building up to about two and one-half feet high, with a width of 10 inches on top. A frame of 6-inch boards should be used around the base to keep the beds in shape.

The mushroom spawn, or seed, can be procured in the shape of bricks from florists and nurserymen. The temperature of the bed must be tested, and no planting must be done until it is below 86 degrees. Then the bricks must be broken in half-inch pieces, and distributed evenly over the bed. In eight or ten days a white thread-like growth will begin to appear, and when this is noticed, the bed must be covered with rich sandy loam, to a depth of one-half to three-quarters of an inch. A bed, under favorable conditions should produce about 20 bushels in three months. They are worth about $3.00 a bushel.—D., Falconer, N. Y.

Bone Spavin.

Editor Farmstead:—I see you say that bone spavin is incurable. Here is a remedy that will take the enlargement away sooner than the lameness will leave. Great care must be taken in its use, as it is very powerful:

Have a druggist make a mixture composed of one ounce each of sulphuric acid, nitric acid and mercury; and two ounces of tincture of cantharides.

I say to let a druggist mix it because it is extremely explosive, and only a druggist can tell the order of mixing the ingredients so as to avoid an explosion. As soon as the glass cork will remain in the bottle over night, it is ready for use.

Clip the hair over the bunch, the area of a silver quarter. Pour a teaspoonful of the mixture in a dish, apply to the spot with the first two fingers, and rub in. It will take ten minutes to do this. Don't let a particle run down the leg. Too much care can not be taken, as you are liable to injure the animal. After it has been applied twelve hours, grease with fresh lard twice a day until the hair starts. Then, if the enlargement is not all gone, apply again, not so hard as at first.—V., Fairwell, Mich.

"Shrinking" of Pork.

The editor of the Farmstead is surprised at some of the letters that have come to him on this subject, since we printed a question as to why pork will shrink when frying more at some times than at others.

In the first place there is a good deal of incorrect judgment about this matter. The only correct way of comparing is to take the meat from two different animals, and from the same part of each; to cut two slices of exactly the same thickness, and the same area, and make them of exactly the same weight; then to fry them at the same time, in the same frying-pan, that they may both be subjected to exactly the same conditions. You will be surprised to find how little difference there is between the area and weight of the pieces after frying.

Meat, like many other substances, contains considerable moisture, and, if kept in a cellar, or other damp place, it will absorb more moisture. Meat kept in a thoroughly dry place, can not absorb it.

When meat is put into a frying-pan, this moisture fries out. The meat loses the weight of as much water as was in it, and naturally becomes less in volume; for a bit of meat full of moisture is larger than an equal mass which is not damp. Then, too, the lard fries out—and that, after the fire, and the longer the meat is over it, the more lard fries out. The fried piece of meat is less in volume, because of the loss of water and lard. This is all there is to this idea of meat "shrinking" in frying.

Some people still adhere to the old superstition that the phases of the moon affect this. The great packing-houses don't pay any attention to the phases of the moon. Furthermore, they keep their cured meats in a dry place, where they will not absorb moisture, as that injures the quality. Moreover, they do not sell smoked ham, bacon, etc., until it has been stored for a full year. These two things—dryness and perfect curing—are the reasons their meat is so superior, and why it does not "shrink" in frying. Let the Blade readers pay no attention to the moon, but exercise good horse sense in curing meat, and in caring for it after it is cured, and they won't be worrying about its "shrinking in the pan."

Here are two letters, which refer to the well-known fact that the composition of lard is affected by the food of the hogs:

Editor Farmstead: Slop-fed pork, or that of hogs fattened on beech mast, will shrink. If the animals are corn-fed, and then slack off feeding for 24 hours before killing, will shrink more than if fed up to killing.—L., Xenia, O.

Editor Farmstead: My theory is that meat shrinks because of the want of alcohol in the feed. Corn has alcohol in it, and meat fattened on corn will not shrink. If fattened on mast, nuts, acorns, or still slops, it will shrink, because acorns, etc., contain no alcohol, and the alcohol is all in the slops, if any one. It is given away absolutely free by the master specialist to all those who need the one great curative agent, electricity.

"SUFFERED EIGHTEEN YEARS, CURED AT LAST."

CASE 1708. Eighteen years ago I first noticed symptoms of nervous trouble that afterwards caused me great misery and suffering. I had pains in my back and spent many restless nights. I had no control of my faculties, so that I was always at a disadvantage in whatever I undertook. I have been using the Electro-Chemic treatment of the Heidelberg Medical Institute about six weeks and I consider myself cured once more, and to be worth all a man has. S. T. H.

REMEMBER The Belt is not sent on trial but is yours to keep forever without the payment of one cent. So write today for the Great Electro-Chemic Belt Free. Mention this paper. Address Dept. 795

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A LIVER MEDICINE FOR HORSES, CATTLE, HOGS AND POULTRY
THE CHATTANOOGA MEDICINE CO.

CATTLE AND SHEEP

For the past five years I have kept your Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine and have found it a most excellent medicine in calfing time, even better than you say it is. GEORGE KNELL, Beaver Dam Ranch, Elkhorn, Colo.

I have used many kinds of different medicine with my Stock and poultry but never anything like your Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine. It does what you say. All my sheep were sick and I read your Black-Draught Stock Book and went to work according to its directions and all my sheep got well but one. I have tried it with my horses and poultry and it never fails. J. X. GREMAUD, Perryville, Mo.

BLACK-DRAUGHT STOCK AND POULTRY MEDICINE

Every farmer and stock raiser wants to turn his stock to the best account and Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine enables him to do this.

Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine invigorates the animal digestion and turns to good account the valuable feed that is given stock. This medicine frees the constipated bowels of the poisonous waste. It cures all digestive troubles, cures cold and hide-bound and distemper in horses and cattle.

Ask your dealer for a 25 cent can and if he does not keep it send the money to the Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., and a half-pound air-tight can will be mailed to you.

Hunting Wild Bees.

Editor Farmstead:—In your esteemed paper of November 19, C., of Blaides, Pa., wants to know how to hunt and find wild bees. I have had practical experience in hunting wild bees for fifty years, and have adopted the following plan and times: If I want to save the bees, I commence hunting about the first of June, and from that until the 15th of August. Prepare a trap by making a light box, eight inches square, the bottom hung on hinges. Four inches above the bottom make a stationary bottom, with four holes 1x3-inch, one on each side, near the middle, between corners. On top of this center bottom place a piece of honeycomb fixed in such a way that it will remain in position. On this comb pour honey that has been mixed with an equal quantity of water. The top covering is composed of a frame one inch wide with glass in the frame—made in such a way that it can be pulled out to one side.

To secure the bees, open the bottom and set the box over any bee that you can find and shut the bottom, confining the bee. Finding itself in prison, it will soon go up through the holes in the center bottom, where it can be seen through the glass. Repeat this until you have secured as many bees as you need, say six. Out in an open piece of ground, away from trees or shade, place a stake about four feet high; place a piece of honey in the comb on top of the stake; set your bee-trap down on the ground at the foot of the stake, and cover it over with a dark cloth. It will not be long until the bees you have in prison will find the watered honey and soon fill themselves. By removing the cloth from the box you can ascertain whether the bees have filled themselves. When they are filled, pull the sliding top to one side enough to let the bees out.

When a bee comes out of the trap he will make a few circuitous tours around the bait, and then start for home, but will soon return for more honey and continue to do so as long as the supply of honey lasts.

Now you are done with the trap; but keep your bait well supplied until the second day about noon; by that time the baited bee will fill up at the stake and start from there and go straight home.

Now stake out the route shown you by the bee and examine every tree that is within two rods of that course or line, and success will crown your efforts even though you may go two miles. An opera glass would assist you in examining tall trees, yet if your eyes are good you will not need them if you get the trees between you and the sun.

For fall hunting I do not use the box trap, but simply put honey on a stake as before (and you might have several baits placed), and just below the bait put a small piece of cloth or sponge saturated with oil of anise and rosemary, in such a way that the bees cannot get to it.

The next day you can see the direction the bees go and you can trace them as before described. If you have any difficulty in finding a tree, move your bait 150 or 200 yards out on the line of course intended to pursue. You will thus get away from any other bees from other trees. Now catch one from your bait in a bottle or glass jar, and carry it along the line staked out, setting the jar down occasionally. The bee will settle on the side of the jar next to the tree. Thus, if you are going south, and the tree is still south of you, the bee will settle on the south side of the jar, and when you have passed the tree the bee will settle on the north side.—A., Forest, Ind.

Recent Literature.

The following books have been received by The Blade from the publishers named. For further information address the publishers, not us:

From the Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis:

Troubadour Tales, by Evaleen Stein, contains four stories of the far-off days of the troubadours. They are beautifully told, and well illustrated.

Songs of Trees, by Mary Y. Robinson, is a new idea in the way of a book for children. Pictures, verse, music and description form each chapter and each month in the year has a separate chapter, each devoted to a separate tree.

S. Frank Baum, the writer of books for children, gives new editions of the Wizard of Oz, and of the Magical Monarch of Mo, a wonder tale of a wonderful country which appeared last year, but is as good as new this season. Then there is a this year's book of fairy lore by Mr. Baum, which comes out with the title, the Enchanted Island of Yew. This island is especially peculiar because of its resemblance to a mince pie divided into four quarters.

From the Outlook Co., 287 Fourth avenue, New York:

The Adventures of Dorothy, by Joslyn Lewis, is a story for children of a little girl who was sent to the country for the summer.

The Outlook Fairy Book, by Laura Winnington, is a book of fairy stories from German, French, Italian, and Spanish sources, with a few old fairy ballads included by way of variety.

From the Henry Altemus Co., 509 Cherry street, Philadelphia:

George Washington Jones is an amusing story by Ruth McEnery Stuart, about a little ten year old colored boy who longed to give himself away to some beautiful young lady to be her page.

Half-a-Dozen Housekeepers, by Kate Douglas Wiggin, is a new and enlarged edition of a book which delighted young people some years ago.

Over the Border, by Robert Barr, is a historical romance of the period of King Charles and Cromwell. It holds the reader's interest to the end. The Frederick A. Stokes Co., 5 East 16th street, New York.

The Forerunner, by Neith Boyce, is a novel which is an excellent picture of American life in the west and east, portraying one of the most striking of the national types—the promoter and moneymaker. Fox, Duffield & Co., New York.

Calderon's Prisoner is a volume of two love stories, the title being that of the first, by Alice Duer Miller. Both are pleasant tales. Charles Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York.

The Ultimate Moment is a brightly written love story by W. R. Lighton, in which the hero finds himself, for a time, in love with two women absolutely unlike in character and appearance. Harper & Bros., Franklin Square, New York.

Newest England, by Henry Demorest Lloyd, comes in a new edition. New Zealand is meant by the title, and Mr. Lloyd makes a careful study of conditions there for the benefit of his own people who were and are confronted with such serious problems. Doubleday, Page & Co., 34 Union Square, New York.

Around the Caribbean and Across Panama, by Francis C. Nicholas, is the result of years of adventure and experiences while examining land and mines around the isthmus of Panama. The H. M. Caldwell Co., Boston.

Famous Assassinations, by Francis Johnson, is the story of thirty-one assassinations famous in the world's history, from Philip of Macedon, 336 B. C., to Alexander and Draga of Servia in the present year. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago.

A Century of Expansion contains the historical argument for the territorial expansion of the United States by Professor Willis Fletcher Johnson, accompanied by maps and a carefully made index. The Macmillan Co., 66 Fifth avenue, New York.

The Golden Rod Book, by Esther Singleton, is a collection of fairy tales from England, France, Poland, Bohemia, Russia, India, China, Italy, Denmark, Ireland and Spain which are bound in a hand some volume profusely decorated with golden rod. Dodd, Mead & Co., Fifth avenue and 35th street, New York.

Two Merry Children, by Elisabeth Polhemus, is the story of Jean and John, their plays, parties and picnics. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

The Reason of It.

"What makes the catboat go so fast?" Asked little Willie Smith.
"The dogfish must be chasing it."
Said father, with a wink.
—Columbia Jester.

STARK TREES best by Test—80 YEARS. 1000 ACRES. WANT MORE SALESMEN **PAY** CASH Weekly. Stark Nursery, Louisiana, Mo.; Dansville, N. Y.

"JUST RUN ACROSS"

Some People are Lucky.

Some people make an intelligent study of food and get on the right track (pure food) others are lucky enough to stumble upon the right way out of the difficulty just as a Philadelphia young woman did.

She says: "I had suffered terribly from nervous indigestion, everything seemed to disagree with me and I was on the point of starvation when one day I happened to run across a demonstration of Postum Food Coffee at one of the big stores here.

"I took a sample home and a sample of Grape Nuts as well and there tried them again and found they agreed with me perfectly. For months I made them my main diet and as the result I am restored to my former perfect health and can eat everything I want to.

"When I spoke to my physician about Grape Nuts he said 'It is a most excellent food'." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason.

Look for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville," in every package of both Postum and Grape-Nuts.

KIPLING LEAVES.

Brattleboro, Vt.—Rudyard Kipling's home here has been sold at a great sacrifice, and he will not return.

"What are the folks a-rushin' for?" asked Cap'n Hiram Slade.
"To hear the bids to hear the bids," the supervisor said.
"What makes you hustle on so fast?" asked Cap'n Hiram Slade.
"I want to see who gets the place," the supervisor said.
For they're sellin' off Naulahka, you can 'ear the auctioneer—
'E's a coaxin' 'em to buy it—w'ich it isn't very dear,
An' we're losin' Rudyard Kiplin' in the mornin'.

"What makes the people bid so low?" asked Cap'n Hiram Slade.
"It's got to sell, it's got to sell," the supervisor said.
"Who was that bid a dollar more?" asked Cap'n Hiram Slade.
"I couldn't see, I couldn't see," the supervisor said.
They are sellin' off Naulahka, they are 'ammerin' it down,
They are laughin' at the bungalow a squattin' on the groun'—
It'll sell in arf a minute—you can 'ear the warnin' soun'
An' we're losing Rudyard Kiplin' in the mornin'.

One time 'e cussed me good an' 'ard," said Cap'n Hiram Slade.
'E's cussin' other folks today," the supervisor said.
One time I thought 'e'd knock me down," said Cap'n Hiram Slade.
They're knockin' down the bungalow," the supervisor said.
For they're sellin' off Naulahka — it is goin', goin', gone!
An' the broth'r-in-law 'e's turnin' all 'is giddy laughter on,
An' 'e's rakin' up the h's that was dropped upon the lawn—
An' we're losin' Rudyard Kiplin' in the mornin.'

—W. D. Nesbit in Chicago Tribune.

ELECTRIC BELT SENT FREE

To all Men who Write to the Heidelberg Medical Institute, St. Paul.

Just send your name and address plainly written and they will send their great "Electro-Chemic Belt" without one cent of cost to you. It is yours for the asking. Not even necessary to send postage stamp.

GOOD AS ANY ELECTRIC BELT IN THE WORLD.

The Heidelberg Medical Institute, capitalized at $100,000, is the Largest and Richest Medical Institute in the Northwest and is giving away thousands of their Great Electro-Chemic Belts to prove and advertise their wonderful curing power. The Great "Electro-Chemic" Belt will restore you to health and happiness. 18,976 willing men recently restored to vim, vigor and perfect manhood. It quickly cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Lame Back, Nervous Exhaustion, Varicocele, Failing Vitality, Kidney Troubles, Liver, Stomach and Sexual Diseases, General Weakness, Lost Nerve Force and many other ailments. It is worth from $50 to $80 to any one. It is given away absolutely free by the master specialist to all those who need the one great curative agent, electricity.

SENT FREE BATH CABINET

IT IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING

without one cent of cost. This is NO 30 DAYS TRIAL scheme. It is YOURS TO KEEP FOREVER and we under no circumstances ASK FOR OR ACCEPT any money for it, either now or in the future. Simply send us your name and address and we will send you a Cabinet. WE GUARANTEE TO BE THE BEST BATH CABINET MADE. One trial will prove to you its superiority over all others. You never again will be without a Bath Cabinet in the house. It cures:

NERVOUSNESS, LIVER, KIDNEY, URINARY or BLADDER DISEASES.

IT WILL CURE Rheumatism, Nervous Debility, Paralysis, Locomotor Ataxia, Varicocele, Piles, Spermatorrhoea, Blood Poison. ALL these can be driven out of the human system by the use of the Cabinet. We give it away FREE to all who can be cured by it. After you are cured your friends will want one and from these sales we will make our profit. BE A STRONG, VIGOROUS MAN, with perfect health, feeling good ALL the time. Write us in confidence, telling all about your case.

WOMAN Piles, Constipation, Female Weakness, Bearing-Down Pains, Painful Monthlies, all female and Female Weakness from which I suffered in silent misery many years." Mrs. G. B. DATEAUX, this yield like magic to this Great Curative Agent. "Your Cabinet quickly cured me of Piles

Wisconsin Medical Bath Cabinet Co., Room 917 Alhambra Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.

Question Bureau

RULES.—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions all on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor about the reliability of any person or firm, nor where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest; and will not answer any questions concerning prices of old coins, stamps, etc. 5.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

The Duke of Marlborough.

M. E., Mt. Oliver, Ill.: John Churchill, duke of Marlborough, the famed English general, was born in Devonshire, England, in 1650, died in 1722. He was a son of Sir Winston Churchill, a royalist of some note, who procured him a place as page to the duke of York, brother of King Charles II, shortly after the restoration. Churchill became a favorite of the duke, who made him an ensign in the Guards at 16. He served at Tangiers against the Moors, and in the forces which Charles II sent to aid the French in their attack on Holland, where he won the praise of Marshal Turenne for his courage and capacity. On his return to England the duke of York gave him high appointments in his household. He owed his advancement as much to his sister, Arabella, as to his own merits, she being the mistress of the duke of York. In 1675 Churchill married Sarah Jennings, a young woman of good family, in the service of the duchess of York. She became famous for her talents and her imperious temper. When the duke of York became James II, Churchill was made a general and Baron Sandridge, and was sent as ambassador to France. In the rebellion of the duke of Monmouth, he performed important military services, and the victory of Sedgemore was due to him. He was not conspicuous during the reign of James II, as he was not in sympathy with the policy of the king. When William of Orange landed, Churchill was made lieutenant general and given an important command. He induced Lord Cornbury, brother-in-law of James, to join William, and soon followed himself. The influence of Churchill and his wife was employed to induce Anne to waive her superior claims to the throne over William. For this, Churchill received valuable appointments, was made earl of Marlborough. In the subsequent dispute between William and Anne, he sided with the latter. In 1692 he was dismissed from his employments and imprisoned for a time in the Tower. After the death of Queen Mary he was restored to favor and made ambassador to Holland. When William died and Anne became queen, Marlborough's influence was so great he practically ruled the kingdom. As ambassador to Holland he completed the arrangements for the declaration of war against France, and was appointed generalissimo of the allied forces. He then entered upon a surprising career of victory. On August 13, 1704, he won the famous victory of Blenheim. In the operations of 1705 he was so successful that the German emperor conferred upon him the lordship of Mindelheim, with the title of prince. He won the battle of Ramillies, May 23, 1706, and on July 12, 1708, the battle of Oudenarde. On September 11, 1709, he won the battle of Malplaquet, the bloodiest and hardest contested of all his victories. His last campaign, in 1711, when he captured the fortress of Bouchain, was the most brilliant of all. Political changes in England followed and in 1712 Marlborough was removed from all his offices. This led him to become the firm friend of the Hanoverian succession, and when George I succeeded to the throne he was made captain general of the army and master of the ordnance. Dying of paralysis in his seventy-second year, he was finally buried at his palace of Blenheim.

Velocity of Light.

By what means is it proved that light travels at the rate of 186,000 miles per second?—W. I. R., Brookville, Pa.

There are several methods of proving it. Roemer, the Danish astronomer, first proved it by the eclipses of Jupiter's first satellite. Each time this satellite circles around Jupiter it is of course eclipsed; that is, it passes behind the body of the planet. This satellite passes into Jupiter's shadow at equal intervals of 42 hours, 28 minutes, 36 seconds. When the earth is travelling in the part of its orbit between the sun and Jupiter, the time between these eclipses does not sensibly change, because our distance from Jupiter varies but little; but when the earth has reached the other side of its orbit, with the sun between it and Jupiter, the retardation in the eclipses has amounted to about 16 minutes, 40 seconds. That is the time it has taken the light to traverse the distance across the earth's orbit. From these data the velocity of light is found.

Another method was devised by M. Fizeau, a French scientist. He measured the time it took light to travel from Suresnes to Montmartre and back again. The main apparatus was placed at Suresnes, and a mirror at Montmartre, the distance between them being 28,516 feet, or nearly five miles. A toothed wheel, with each tooth and the interval between of equal width, is made to revolve rapidly, with such velocity that a beam of light, having passed between two teeth, goes to the mirror at the other station, and is reflected back, so as to be intercepted by the next tooth, which has meanwhile taken the place of the interval. With a certain velocity this is done, and no reflection is observed; double the velocity of the wheel, the reflected flash reappears; at three times the velocity, it is obscured, and so on. Knowing the velocity of the wheel, and the distance between the stations, the velocity of light is easily figured out.

There are several other methods of obtaining the actual velocity of light.

The Term "O. K."

What is the supposed origin of the term O. K.?—L. H., Herrick, Ill.

Nobody knows certainly. It is said that it had its origin in a campaign story circulated when Andrew Jackson was a candidate for the presidency. This story was, that when Jackson was a court officer in Tennessee he indorsed official papers "O. K." meaning "Oll Korrect." If there was such a story it was false, for Jackson had a better education than that.

Radium.

I would like to know through your paper what is radium, of what composed, of what force and heat it has, and also the nature of it.—W. A. W., Reitz P. O., Pa.

Radium is a newly-discovered substance apparently of a metallic nature. It possesses great radio-active power, whence its name. That is, it throws off rays, which, like the X-rays, penetrate solid substances. For the latest developments concerning it, read article headed "Radium," on first page of Weekly Blade of Dec. 3.

Radium was discovered by Madame Curie, wife of Prof. Curie, of Paris. It is so far, found in but one mineral on the globe—in pitchblende, which is used to obtain uranium. Radium is found in the residue after the uranium is extracted. The price of radium has increased tenfold in the last six months owing to the action of the Austrian government, which had created a corner thereln by refusing to allow further exports of the refuse from the uranium oxide works at Joachimsthal. As a result the nominal price of radium is about $250,000 for one-fifteenth of an ounce.

TO WOMEN WHO DREAD MOTHERHOOD!

Information How They May Give Birth to Happy, Healthy Children Absolutely Without Pain—Sent Free.

No woman need any longer dread the pains of child-birth; or remain childless. Dr. J. H. Dye has devoted his life to relieving the sorrows of women. He has proved that all pain at child birth may be entirely banished, and he will gladly tell you how it may be done absolutely free of charge. Send your name and address to Dr. J. H. Dye, 144, Lewis block, Buffalo, N. Y., and he will send you, postpaid, his wonderful book which tells how to give birth to happy, healthy children, absolutely without pain; also how to cure sterility. Do not delay but write today.

The Aurora.

Please explain what is meant by the aurora borealis.—Subscriber, Eglantine, Ark.

The name "Aurora" was that of the Roman goddess of dawn; and the aurora is so called because its light resembles that of early dawn. When it occurs in the northern polar regions, it is called the aurora borealis, or northern aurora; when it occurs in the southern polar regions it is called the aurora australis, or southern aurora.

The aurora is a phenomenon of the upper atmosphere, very frequently seen in far northern or southern latitudes, and less frequently in the temperate zones. It comprises irregular patches and dancing columns of light, of rapidly-changing forms, and is probably due to electric discharges. During extensive displays, there is often such an electrical disturbance as to interfere with the working of the telegraph and telephone.

A Grammatical Question.

In the sentence, "Man wants but little here below, nor wants that little long," how dispose of "but little" in the first clause and "little" in the second? I hope so simple a question will be no offense. What is ever so clear to a city editor may be very obscure to a country student.—W. P. K., Rye Cove, Va.

One way of disposing it is to consider "little" to be an adjective, referring to a noun understood, in both places. In the first clause "but" is an adverb, qualifying the adjective "little." You can supply the noun by saying "little wealth" or "little property," the noun being the object of the verb "want." While the Bureau is intended to help our readers to gain information, the pressure on our space compel us to consider, not alone the need of the questioner, but whether the answer is of interest to any large number of our readers. Hence the rule that questions must be of general interest. We frequently get letters scolding because we take space to tell things that can be obtained from a geography, or grammar, or dictionary. We can't please everybody, but try to do the best we can for the largest number.

Voting of the Electors.

Please explain the electing of the President. I understand that each state has as many "electoral" votes as it has members in congress, but I am not sure as to how they are always cast, whether the entire electoral vote of a state is cast for one candidate when that candidate gets a majority of the popular vote of that state, or whether each candidate gets an electoral vote for so many popular votes. —W. C. J., Canaan, Ala.

Take the case of Ohio. She has 21 representatives in congress and two senators. Hence she has 23 electoral votes. The state conventions of both parties nominate two candidates for the electors at large, corresponding to the senators; the conventions in each congressional district nominate a candidate for one elector.

The 23 nominees of each party are printed on the state ticket, and those who have a plurality are elected, of course, the same as the candidates for other offices. Then these 23 men meet in the state capital and vote for President and Vice President, each elector having one vote for each. In the presidential election of 1892 one Democratic and 22 Republican electors were chosen in Ohio.

Religion and Philosophy.

If one asks, "Is there a God?" is that question a religious question or a philosophical one?—J. A. M. Mt. Vernon, O.

The Standard Dictionary defines religion to be "a belief binding the spiritual nature of man to a supernatural being, on whom he is conscious he is dependent." The Century Dictionary defines it thus: "Recognition of an allegiance in manner of life to a superhuman power, to whom allegience and service are regarded as justly due."

Hence it is plain that the acceptance of a belief in God is necessary before there can be religion. In other words, religion takes it for granted that there is a God. Hence the question whether there is or is not a God is not a religious one. It belongs to the domain of philosophy.

The Name Gray.

Please state whether the name Gray is a common Irish name or not.—G. G., Glenn, O.

Gray, of which Grey is simply a variation of spelling, is not an Irish name at all. It is English. It is one of the many names given because of the color of hair or complexion. If there are any Grays or Greys in Ireland, they are not of original Irish stock, but descendants of Englishmen who emigrated to Ireland.

Annexing Canada.

H. E. K., Cadiz, O.: The question of annexing Canada is a purely academic one. It is not an issue, because annexation must come, either by the wishes of a majority of the Canadian people and the assent of England or through conquest, as the result of a successful war. Neither of these conditions are likely to occur, so far as can be seen. The vast majority of the Canadians are averse to joining hands with the United States, and there is no antipathy to quarrel with England on any discoverable ground.

The union of Canada to us would of course remove the tariffs of both countries. United States goods would go into Canada free, and Canadian products come into the United States free. There would be no trouble then about getting Canadian goods into the Klondike, of course; but after all that is a trivial thing.

Roscoe Conkling.

Will you please give a sketch of Roscoe Conkling?—J. D. F., Henslee, Tenn.

Roscoe Conkling was born at Albany in 1829, died at New York in 1888. He was a Republican member of congress from New York, 1859 to 1863, and from 1865 to 1867; United States senator from New York, 1867 to 1881, when he resigned because of a dispute with President Garfield concerning the appointment of a collector of the port at New York. He and his colleague, Thomas Platt, opposed the confirmation of Robertson, Garfield's appointee, and when the confirmation was made they resigned, with the view of rebuking the President by securing prompt re-election by the New York legislature; but both were defeated. Conkling, embittered, never re-entered politics.

The Panama Canal.

Why is the Washington government to pay the Panama Canal company $280,000 annually? What claim has Colombia on Panama, and why is she threatening an invasion of the United States if the money is not paid her?—S. R., Manchester, Mich.

You have your facts pretty well mixed up. Panama is, or rather was, a department of Colombia, just as Michigan is part of the United States. Hence all negotiations for building a canal had to be with Colombia. De Lesseps, who built the Suez Canal, organized a company in France to build the Panama Canal, and obtained a concession from Colombia to build it on certain terms. The work was begun, but in 1889 the company failed, having expended $120,000,000, and done only about two-fifths of the work. A new company was organized, in France and a new concession granted from Colombia. This company has been doing work in a very desultory way.

Over a year ago the United States agreed to pay the Panama Canal company $40,000,000 for the right to the canal, for all the work done, the machinery, boats, wharves, etc., and for the Panama railway, which had been bought by the Canal company. That is, we were to pay $40,000,000 for what had cost $120,000,000. A treaty was negotiated with Colombia by which the United States was to lease forever a strip six miles wide, for which we were to pay Colombia $10,000,000 cash, and an annual rental. This is the treaty which the Colombian congress refused to ratify.

Then Panama declared her independence of Colombia, and a new canal treaty between the United States and Panama has been made, and ratified by the Colombian government. It needs yet to be ratified by our own senate to make it effective. Now please keep the run of events as they happen, by reading The Blade regularly.

A River of Ink.

L. M. W., Republic, O., sends us one of the many "wonder stories" exploited by newspapers, in answer to a recent query. It says the stream is in Algeria, Africa. It is formed by the junction of two streams; one comes from a region abounding in iron ore, the other drains a swamp. The waters of the first stream are of course strongly impregnated with iron, and that, as you all know, is the chief ingredient of ink. The other stream, draining a swamp full of decaying vegetable matter, contains a large quantity of gallic acid. Gallic acid is another important ingredient in a writing fluid. So, when the iron stream and the stream of gallic acid mett, they form the river of ink.

About this and many other stories, we have to say that there is no authority for them. They are probably newspaper "fakes." No work on Algeria mentions this stream, that we can find. Algeria has very little rain, no swamps, and no iron mines; its rivers are all dried up in the summer season. These facts show the falsity of the story.

George Eliot.

Please give a sketch of the life of George Eliot, the novelist.—W. W., Hickerson, Tenn.

"George Eliot (not "Elliott," as you wrote it), was the pen name of a noted English woman, a famous novelist. Her real name was Marian Evans. She was born in Warwickshire, England, in 1819; died in London in 1880. From 1851 to 1853 she was assistant editor of the Westminster Review. In 1854 she went to live with George Henry Lewes, a noted English literary critic, whose wife was incurably insane, and an inmate of an asylum. Under the English law, he could not get a divorce. Miss Evans and Lewes lived together until his death, in 1873, and regarded their connection as a marriage, though illegal. On May 6, 1880, she married John Walter Cross, but died within that year. Of her novels, the first was published in 1858, and the last in 1879.

The Popes.

Please tell us how the pope of Rome gets his title. Have we had thirteen Leos and ten called Pius?—I. M. R., Cassville, Missouri.

When a cardinal is elected pope, he chooses the name by which he shall be known. Thirteen of them chose Leo ("a lion"), and the present pope is the tenth to assume the name of Pius, not "Pious", as you wrote it.

The Monroe Doctrine.

Please give the origin and history of the Monroe doctrine.—O. H., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

During the administration of President James Monroe, the Spanish colonies in America having revolted, it was rumored that an alliance of France, Russia, Austria and Prussia contemplated their reduction, though the United States recognized their independence.

In 1823 Monroe put in his annual message to Congress a "warning to the powers" in the shape of a clause that has since become celebrated as the "Monroe Doctrine."

Referring to the proposed intervention of the allied powers, the measure stated that "We should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety;" and in another part it stated that "the American continent, by the free and independent condition which they have announced and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power."

That is to say, the United States would not allow any European nation hereafter to gain a foothold on the American continent; and any attempt to do so would be considered cause for war by the United States. That is what it means. Monroe excepted from this the portions of America then belonging to European powers—Canada, for instance. He said: "With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered, and shall not interfere."

The following list embraces the Presidents who found it advisable to assert the Monroe Doctrine:

Tyler, on December 30, 1842.
Polk, on December 2, 1845.
Polk, on December 7, 1847.
Polk, on April 29, 1847.
Polk, on April 29, 1848.
Buchanan, on December 6, 1858.
Buchanan, on December 3, 1860.
Grant, on May 1, 1870.
Grant, on December 5, 1870.
Grant, on April 5, 1871.
Cleveland, on December 2, 1895.
Cleveland, on December 17, 1895.
McKinley and Roosevelt, on numerous occasions.

An Impossible Condition.

What would I see, feel and hear if I were suspended above the earth, at or near the equator, for a period of 24 hours; high enough to miss the highest peaks or ranges? At what rate would objects on the earth pass me, and what the temperature?—J. W. T., Canon City, Colo.

Supposing it were possible to suspend a man in the way you imagine, he would have to be above the atmosphere. The air travels with the earth, and if he were suspended in the atmosphere he would have the air rushing past him at the rate of a thousand miles an hour—ten times the velocity of a hurricane. He would have to partake of the motion of the earth around the sun, and also of the motion of the solar system northward toward the star Vega, else he would be left in space forever.

Assuming that he partook of those two motions, but not of the earth's rotation on its axis, he would see objects on the earth pass under him to the eastward at the rate of over 1,000 miles an hour—six times a second; for the earth at the equator is 25,000 miles around, and revolves once in 24 hours. Divide 25,000 by 24 and you get the rate of eastward travel at any point on the equator. The temperature, outside the atmosphere, would be that of space, which is believed to be 461 degrees below zero. Suspended above the air, he could hear nothing, and in a few minutes he would feel nothing, for he would be frozen stiff.

San Domingo.

What is the cause of the revolution that is now being carried on in San Domingo? In 1870 the people were voted to be annexed to the United States. What was the reason that they were not annexed?—W. S., Hamburg, Iowa.

The cause of the revolution (now ended) was very trivial. It had its origin in the ambition of the governor of Puerto Plata, the chief seaport of the republic, to hold a cabinet office. President Wos y Gil refused him. Then he plotted with Jiminez, and started the revolution by turning his town over in the interests of the latter, who is a chronic revolutionist.

Juan Isidro Jiminez has had a stormy career. He is nearing his sixtieth year and, in spite of his fire-eating propensities, is said to possess some excellent qualities. The greater part of his life was devoted to commerce, in which pursuit he amassed an immense fortune, and 13 years ago he had not the faintest intention of running for the presidency or taking an active part in the politics of his country, to which, from residence in Europe for many years, he was practically a stranger.

Jiminez was drawn into politics by a quarrel with President Heureaux, the bloody-thirsty tyrant, to whose friendship and powerful protection he owed a great part of his wealth. Jiminez was obliged to keep away from the country for fear of losing his life, and Heureaux ruined his business in Santo Domingo and persecuted his relatives.

Jiminez retaliated by making a great propaganda against him, and this he did so effectively that Heureaux's attempts to raise a foreign loan in 1897 were completely frustrated. Then followed Jiminez's invasion of Monte Cristy, in which his best general, Augustin Morales, was slain, the expedition completely destroyed, and taken prisoners with the exception of two or three shot, and Jiminez himself narrowly escaped.

Heureaux then proceeded to carry on a still more furious persecution of Jiminez's relations, friends and supporters, which developed the plot that ended in his death, he being slain by General Ramon Casceres in Moca, Santo Domingo, in June, 1899.

On Heureaux's death the victorious revolutionists formed a provisional government, and Jiminez and Vasquez were unanimously elected president and vice president respectively.

Conspiracy grew ripe again. One or two attempts at revolution were checked, but his government began to be shaken by the constant intrigues. Vasquez began to grow jealous of Minister Francisco Henriquez y Carvajaleux's growing influence and popularity, and Jiminez's enemies did not fail to avail themselves of the opportunity to make Vasquez believe the former was false to him. Vasquez struck a swift blow at Jiminez, who was compelled to seek shelter in one of the foreign consulates.

Vasquez had scarcely taken his seat in the presidential chair when the counter revolution, under the leadership of the followers of Jiminez began and finally owed its triumph, after nine months of fighting, to the daring outbreak of Alejandro Wos y Gil, one of President Heureaux's old followers, who after 15 days' fighting captured the city and was declared president.

When Gil assumed command Jiminez came to the United States and began his preparations for another revolution, November 4 the blow was struck, and Jiminez is now practically the ruler of Santo Domingo again.

Light.

I read in Genesis i, 3, about the creation of light. What was the nature of the light that existed before the sun was created, and from what source did it come?—M. W. C., Oxford, Iowa.

You refer to the fact that the creation of light is put on the first day, and of the sun, moon and stars on the fourth day. Of course light is simply a vibration of the ether, set in motion by great heat, or by chemical or electric action. We can not conceive of light without a light-giving source. This was a difficulty three-quarters of a century ago, and Hugh Miller, the great Scotch geologist, a devout Christian and a scholar, conceived of the first chapter of Genesis as a connected series of visions which passed before Moses. The first vision he considered to be "a gray, diffused light, casting a sickly gleam over a cloud-limited expanse of steaming, vaporous sea"—a glimpse of the earth in Archaean time, when it was still so hot that the seas simmered and boiled, and the steam clouds covered the sky.

So he goes on, describing the vision of each day, which was really a series of glimpses of the different geologic epochs. The vapors and clouds have disappeared and the sun and other heavenly bodies are visible in the expanse of the sky on the fourth day.

You can accept this or some similar theory, or else the one now accepted by the modern school of Protestant Biblical scholars—that the earlier chapters of the book of Genesis are the ancient legends of the Jewish race. Each primitive race had its own cosmogony—its own theory of accounting for the beginnings of things. The bureau, a short time ago, gave an interesting sketch of a number of these.

Miscellaneous.

A. S., Missouri Valley, Iowa: We do not know.

P. H. S., Sedalia, Mo.: We are unable to place the quotation.

J. H. M., Muse's Mills, Ky.: We have no definite information on the matter.

W. P., Sioux Falls, S. D.: We do not place him. Can't you give us a clue?

F. A. D., Haysville, Tenn.: Better consult your minister, and get his opinion.

Reader, Worthington, W. Va.: We think so. Why did he qualify if he did not wish the job?

D. R., Waynesboro, Va.: There would be no reason for the authorities to take any such steps.

Little Girl, Kokomo, Ind.: Have not seen a copy in years, and have no idea where to find it.

L. M. W., Republic O.: We know of nothing by that name. You will have to tell us more about it.

A. T. A., Baltimore, Md.: We do not recall ever publishing such a poem. We certainly never saw it.

A. C. F., Copley, O.: Todd's New Astronomy costs $1.50, we think, and any bookseller will order it for you.

J. L., Trilla, Ill.: Prof. Curie (not Curry) resides in Paris, France. Read answer elsewhere headed "Radium."

M. A. S., Cuzco, Ind.: The first is too common for us to waste space in reprinting, the second is copyrighted.

T. S., Delmar, Iowa: All machines are labor-saving devices. To try to explain even the most important would require a book.

Z. P. K., Lewisburg, Pa.: We can not take space for such a purpose. The best plan is to go to a manufacturer and see it done.

C. D., Annandale, Minn.: Never heard of it. Do for your own sake, read something better than stories of thieves and robbers.

Subscriber, Nebraska: Never heard of it. Doubtless you have the name wrong. Tell us what it is used for and we may be able to help you.

W. N. C., Rich View, Ill.: Consult a first-class physician. He knows more of the disease than people who use "cure-all" home-made remedies.

C. I. M., Parma, Mich.: December 29, 1883, fell on a Saturday. Don't omit the name of your state. There are a number of postoffices of that name.

A. L., Pueblo, Colo.: Ten per cent is the usual royalty on a book. When an author has achieved fame, so that his name sells a book, he can do better.

Subscriber, Laingsburg, Mich.: Unfortunately such a list would take more space than we could find; besides the labor of compiling it would be too great.

J. M. M., Rymer, W. Va.: Probably the war department could furnish statistics of the negro soldiers in the civil and Spanish wars, but we know of no other place to find them. We have nothing that gives it.

L. S. B., Middlebourne, W. Va.: The ground on which the divorce was granted was adultery, with an illegitimate child also in evidence. Haven't you learned yet that the gentleman is very much of a fakir?

M. J. M., Hanover, W. Va.: Writers of United States history, especially of school histories, divide it into periods to suit themselves. The only division that is logical, is the colonial, the revolutionary, up to the adoption of the constitution, and the constitutional, down to the present.

J. H. H., Troutville, Va.: If you will think a moment, you will see how impossible it is for us to keep posted on the laws and court decisions of every state. To answer your question we should have to send it to some lawyer of your state and pay him for his reply. That is the reason the rules above exclude all questions of law.

CURES WEAK MEN FREE.

Restores Love and a Happy Home for All.

How any man may quickly cure himself after years of suffering from sexual weakness, lost vitality, night losses, varicocele, etc., and enlarge small weak organs to full size and vigor. Simply send your name and address to Dr. Knapp Medical Co., 862 Hull Building, Detroit, Mich., and they will gladly send free receipt with full directions so that any man may easily cure himself at home. This is certainly a most generous offer, and the following extracts taken from their daily mail show what men think of their generosity.

"Dear Sirs—Please accept my sincere thanks for yours of recent date. I have given your treatment a thorough test and the benefit has been extraordinary. It has completely braced me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy and you cannot realize how happy I am."

"Dear Sirs—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned and enlargement is entirely satisfactory."

"Dear Sirs—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed, and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor."

All correspondence is strictly confidential, mailed in plain, sealed envelope. The receipt is free for the asking and they want every man to have it.

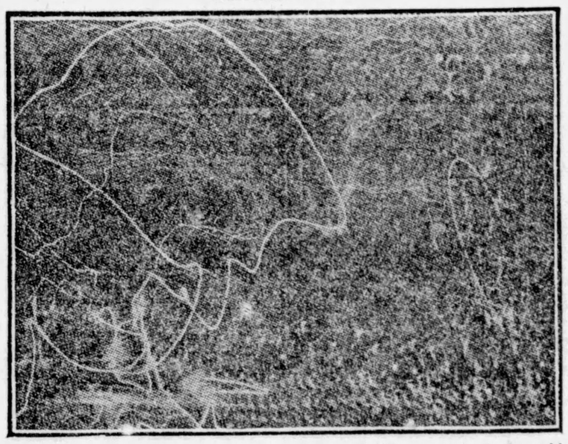
OLD LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN

Nature through the active agency of the rains, winds and even the dust sometimes performs wonderful things in the strange fashioning of the obdurate stone into forms resembling the human face. On the very summit of Mount Tumalpais, a lofty peak that stands twelve miles form the city of San Francisco, is a most remarkable profile wrought in the solid stone.

Just a few minutes' walk from the end of the railroad that leads up to the mountain's summit, on the trail that circles the crest of the peak, brings one to the "Old Lady" herself. This huge natural sphinx seems to guard the path where it narrows on a rocky ledge.

The profile is perfect. The seams and creases made by the centuries of weather are like lines of care and age worn in the human face. No one—however, aged in our worldly years—can remember when the "Old Lady" was young. However, when one passes further along the path and looks backward the outline of the wrinkled visage is lost, and instead the eye can dimly trace the features of a woman young and as beautiful as an Egyptian princess.

FREAK LIGHTNING.



It is difficult to estimate the actual number and brilliancy of the flashes which accompany an ordinary thunderstorm. An ingenious photographer has recently hit upon a way of presenting the electrical effects of an entire storm. The accompanying photograph shows upward of a score of lightning flashes taken on a single plate. The picture was made by exposing the plate continuously throughout the storm.

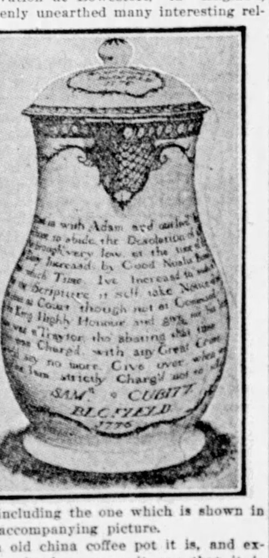
New Game Apparatus.

With the nearing of the winter season, when outdoor sports must be abandoned, aside from skating, tobogganing and kin-

dred amusements, the search for new games to occupy the long evenings has begun. It is supplying this demand for novelties to fill in the winter season that a number of inventors have found fortune smiling on them in earnest, and discovered some simple game or puzzle, which came to them perhaps in an instant, has made them rich. So it is not surprising that a host of new amusements makes its appearance every year, and that old favorites are soon displaced with novelties of a later date. In the picture we show a new adaptation of a game which would have been popular many years ago had it not been for the high prices of the implements with which it is played. It is unnecessary to refer to the actual cost of the table, cues and balls which go to make up the pool and billiard outfit, as these are well known, but recently substitutes for these high priced implements have been introduced at a lower cost. The apparatus here shown does not even require a special table, but can be played on the dining table, with the aid of a cushion of webbing stretched around the edges by means of corner brackets. The pockets for the pool game consist of pyramidal blocks, which rest on the table and have each apex bored out to a depth sufficient to contain the ball. The latter must be struck with a cue and driven up the inclined surface of the pyramid with sufficient force to drop it into the pocket at the top. It would seem that no small degree of skill will be necessary in order to lodge the ball in the pocket, neither overshooting nor falling short in the attempt.

CURIOUS OLD JAR.

Workmen, while recently making an excavation at Lowestoft, in England, suddenly unearthed many interesting relics, including the one which is shown in the accompanying picture.



An old china coffee pot it is, and experts who have seen it say that it is in many respects unique. It is ten inches in height and a portion of its surface is ornamented with floral decorations. Many words are also stamped on it, but their exact meaning is not very clear. Apparently some of them refer to the special object for which the jar was constructed and others to the family which owned it.

The Lure.

"What bait do you use," said a saint to the devil,
"When you fish where the souls of men abound?"
"Well, for special tastes," said the king of evil,
"Gold and fame are the best I've found
"But for general use?" asked the saint.
"Ah, then,"
Said the demon, "I angle for man, not men,
And a thing I hate
Is to change my bait.
So I fish with a woman the whole year round."

Too Uncertain.

A motorist who was touring in the country encountered a farmer on horseback. On seeing the motor the horse became restive. "Why," said the motorist to the farmer, "don't you get a motor like this?" "Man," was the reply, "I prefer a horse; thae travelin' ollshops are too uncertain for me." "You'll think different some day; you farmers are behind the times," remarked the tourist. "May be we are," was the retort, "but if you were in Ladysmith, as I was, and had tae mak' a dinner off a steak frae the hin' wheel o' a motor car ye'd wish ye hadna been sae up tae date."—Scottish American.

May I Help You,

You Who Are Sick?

My help is offered on trial. I want to show each sick one just what Dr. Shoop's Restorative can do before a settlement is made. And then, after a full month's treatment, the patient is to be the sole judge.

If you say, "I am no better," there is not a penny of cost to you. I alone will assume the expense.

The offer is unique. The way to secure six bottles of my Restorative on trial is simple. There is no trouble but to write a postal, or a letter. I have made the way to help so easy, so simple, that none need hesitate.

I have published the books shown below. You are simply to ask for the book you need. That's easy enough, surely.

Then I will arrange with a druggist near you, so that you can secure six bottles of

Dr. Shoop's Restorative

You may take it a full month on trial. If it succeeds the cost to you is $5.50. If it fails the cost is mine. I will then ask the druggist to bill the cost to me, and you alone are to decide.

Dr. Shoop's Restorative acts on the inside nerves. The nerves that control the vital organs. Here lies the key to my success. This success makes it possible to give a month's treatment on trial.

If failures were common, I would withdraw the offer. But I do not. You will see my offer everywhere, year after year. And the offer is so easily obtainable too. It is much easier than to call a physician. And a physician's call means expense, whether he succeeds or fails.

Did you ever know of anything more fair, more liberal? And I want you to make the test, too. You will do me a favor to write today, now, while you have it in mind.

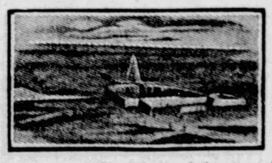
Simply state which book you want, and address Dr. Shoop, box 6528, Racine, Wis.

Book 1 on Dyspepsia.
Book 2 on the Heart.
Book 3 on the Kidneys.
Book 4 for Women.
Book 5 for Men, (sealed)
Book 6 on Rheumatism

Mild cases, not chronic are often cured with one or two bottles. At druggists.

CITY OF DAVID.

The tomb of David, king of Israel, is still pointed out to travelers in Palestine, and despite its age, is in a remarkably good state of preservation. David died in 1015 B. C., and was buried in the



"City of David." His tomb became the sepulchre of several subsequent kings and one of the sacred places of the kingdom. It stands on Mount Zion, at Jerusalem, just outside of the city wall.

Difference of Opinion.

Cash—It's easy to win a woman's love. Just give her all the money she wants.

Nocash—You don't call that easy, do you?—Tit-Bits.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

A GREAT KING'S GREATEST DEED

The International Sunday-School Lesson for December 13, is "The Dedication of the Temple." 1 Kings 8:1-11; 62, 63.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

The old King David died with a vision of a temple before his eyes; the ripeness of his life was spent in dreaming of and preparing for a splendid house for the worship of the Most High. To his son he bequeathed the actual work of erecting the temple; his own hands were too much stained with blood to undertake so holy a task. His part was the making ready part—in which he was not unlike the most of us, who spend our days in erecting ladders by which others may climb. It was a good ladder David built. He collected a storehouse of treasure so great as to be almost unbelievable. Gold, silver, precious stones, metals and timber—a staggering total. When Solomon came to take up the work laid out for him he found that the wealth at his disposal was more than a trillion dollars—a greater sum than the total income of the United States for a year.

During the years immediately following his coronation Solomon was engaged wholly in this great undertaking; he with all his people, spent more than seven years in the labor. The number of workers occupied in the task was about 300,000. The story of the building of the temple is one of the romances of the Old Testament. The ends of the earth were laid under tribute to the project. Hiram, king of Tyre, and his skilled workmen, were requisitioned. In the depths of the earth the stone was quarried and prepared, that no sound of hammer might be heard about the sacred buildings. By means unknown to modern builders, the material was brought together and put into place.

The result was magnificent. The glories of Solomon's temple, its richness, magnificence and beauty, have for centuries been a favorite theme with Jew and Christian alike. Neither before nor since has there been a sacred edifice of such splendor. The wealth of the Hebrew nation, the devoted industry of its people and all the skill that friendship and money could employ had been engaged in this mighty enterprise. Now it was completed; the building was ready to fulfill its mission as the house of Jehovah. Only the act of dedication, and the divine Presence with its visible symbols were wanting.

A National Feast.

Nothing binds a nation into oneness so completely as a national religious festival. Thanksgiving Day quickens the national consciousness of America even more than does Independence Day. This project of David's, which his son was fulfilling welded the Jewish people together as no other event in its history had done. Appealing to the religious motive, which is the deepest in life, it had aroused a national enthusiasm, and sense of national identity that even the subsequent division and exile of the Jews could not efface.

So a general assembly was called for the great ceremony of the dedication of the new temple. The people came together as they had come for the coronation, from every tribe and town and village. This representative gathering of the people in itself excited enthusiasm. Members of the twelve tribes forgot their differences in the thought of this new tie which bound them together. The occasion had many of the characteristics of a far-reaching religious revival.

A King's Speech.

This great ceremony was made the occasion of an address and a prayer by King Solomon—utterances that are among the most noted of Biblical addresses, and of which much of the phraseology has found its way into common religious speech. The majesty and loftiness and comprehensiveness of these words of Solomon deserve careful study.

If aught was lacking to impress the listening multitudes with the solemn significance of this occasion, Solomon's words provided it. The deeper meaning of this temple, as a house of God, as a place of prayer and worship, as a center toward which the people's hearts would turn and from which religious influences would radiate, were set forth in eloquent words surcharged with intense spiritual fervor.

The End of Wanderings.

The Ark of the Covenant, the peculiar symbol of the presence of Jehovah with the children of Israel in all their long existence ever since the forty years in the wilderness. It had dwelt in tents, and in places obscure and honorable. Enemies had captured it and friends had carried it to war. In all these years during which the Hebrew people were being moulded into a nation this sacred emblem had had no permanent abiding place. Wherever the Ark had been was the tabernacle of the Most High.

Now the temple was to be its home. In the innermost court of the temple, its holy of holies, the Ark was to rest forever. As a man's spirit sanctifies his body, vitalizing all of its wonderful structure, and giving significance to its beauty, so the Ark, and the cloud which had led the Israelites on their pilgrimages, made sacred all the splendors of this triumph of architecture. Apart from the Ark, or the Presence which it symbolized, the temple was but a mere thing of wood and stone and metal.

A Splendid Ceremony.

Pomp and reverent stateliness marked the bringing up of the Ark from its latest place of sojourn. Every letter of the prescribed procedure was observed. God's work was done in God's way. Thus, amid the tumult of the people's rejoicing, the Ark, containing the two tables of stone, on which the commandments were inscribed, was installed under the wings of the cherubim, in the new temple's most sacred court.

The climax came, after the priests had deposited the sacred burden, when "the glory of Jehovah filled the house of Jehovah," In sacred and overpowering effulgence. Before this mysterious and awful shekinah the priests were unable to stand, for it was as the very presence of Jehovah.

This symbolic cloud had gone before the children of Israel in their exodus and wanderings; it had enfolded Moses on Mount Sinai, had dwelt above the Ark in the tabernacle, and now, the supreme act of the dedication of the new temple was the appearance of this token of God's invisible presence.

Gifts of Gladness.

After the old Jewish custom, sacrifices were made to God in honor of this epochal event. Their lavishness indicates somewhat of the temper of the occasion. There were twenty-two thousand oxen, and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep, a great sacrifice, indeed. But then it was to a great Jehovah on a

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1903.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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Single copy, weekly, one year, $1.00; six months, 60 cents; three months, 30 cents. Write for club terms.

SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid, free to any address Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address,
THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Entered at the postoffice at Toledo as second-class mail matter.

CIRCULATION LAST WEEK - 161,000

NOVEMBER PREMIUM WATCH.

E. L. Wright, Lompoc, California, sent us a club of 150 names last month. This being the largest November club, we have awarded Mr. Wright the premium watch as offered. The watch will go forward by registered mail in a few days. Another watch will be awarded for the largest December club.

COTTON MILLS IN TROUBLE.

The unfavorable government report on the cotton crop sent the price of the raw staple upward, and the American cotton mills are now facing a very serious situation. There are large stocks of cotton goods on hand, for the market has not been a favorable one for some months, and the prices of the finished products have not risen correspondingly with the advance in raw cotton. Now, with a still sharper advance in the price of the latter, and the prospect of a shortage rendering any reduction improbable, a movement is on foot for a general reduction in output by the mills.

This movement is all the more significant because the Southern cotton spinners have taken the initiative. The Southern mills have the advantage over those of New England in lower wages, a shorter haul, and other factors of cheaper production. When they find it impossible to do a profitable business because the prices of cotton goods are not at a level to correspond with the high cost of the raw material, the situation is certainly grave.

Either the prices of all cotton goods will have to advance to a point that will allow the mills to run at a profit, or the rate of wages must be cut down. The curtailment of manufacturing, through a partial or full shut-down of the mills, will be but a temporary expedient, which must result in one or the other of the above courses being taken.

INTER-ISLAND COMMERCE.

Colonel Edwards, chief of the bureau of insular affairs, in his report, urges action by Congress regulating the coastwise or inter-island shipping and also of vessel commerce between the islands and the ports of the United States proper.

According to an act of Congress, the coastwise law, restricting commerce from one port of the United States to another to American vessels shall apply, after July 1st next, to business between the Philippines and the United States, and also among the islands of the archipelago. Not only must these vessels be built or owned by American citizens, but they must be manned by American sailors.

The Atlanta Constitution, voicing the desire of the foreign shipowners, calls on congress to suspend the operation of this act, in order that the Philippine commerce may not suffer. It declares that there are not enough vessels, meeting the requirements of the act, to handle the trade, and that a strict enforcement would work a hardship in the islands.

The Marine Journal, anticipating the opposition of the foreign shipowners, has made a compilation of the available ships and finds the total dead weight carrying capacity of steamships flying the American flag, exclusive of sail tonnage that can be utilized on July 1st next, to be 298,000 tons. As the total exports from the Philippines to the United States last year were only 64,000 tons, it will be seen that there is an excess of 234,000 tonnage to care for any increase in the carrying trade between the islands and this country. Assuming that the Journal's information is correct, it would appear that the Constitution is needlessly alarmed.

A LABOR UNION FINED.

Franklin Union of Press Feeders of Chicago was yesterday fined for contempt by Judge Holdom, the first time in the history of trade unionism in this country that a union has been adjudged guilty of illegal acts.

The union organized a strike against ten printing firms, members of Chicago Typothetae, and proceeded to interfere with the operation of the various plants. A restraining order was obtained by the firms to protect their employes, but, disregarding this, the union established and maintained a line of pickets, with the result that acts of intimidation were numerous, and assaults on non-union employes not infrequent.

The court held that these illegal acts, from their very nature, could not be performed without the union's knowledge, and there was the additional proof that officers of the union were present in court during a hearing in relation to the wrong doing.

The court held that the question of knowledge was the only one to be established, and that being apparent from the history of the strike, he had not hesitancy in pronouncing the union guilty. The fine, which may be anywhere from $1 to $5,000, was not fixed owing to the absence of defendant's attorney.

The action of the court, taken in connection with the civil suits recently brought by Chicago houses against labor unions, shows a determination to attack the fountain head of labor organization for the protection of property. The marvel of it is that employers have so long been content with holding the individual striker responsible for the damages resulting from a strike. Judge Holdom advances no new theory of law but merely offers the well known rule governing the relations of principal and agent. So long as the individual strikers are made the sole sufferers for misdeeds countenanced by his union, picketing with all its accompaniments of assaults and intimidation will be a favorite weapon of the unions, but when the treasury of the union is made to pay for the union's folly, conservative labor men will counsel caution before they will consent to imperil the union's funds.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ON PANAMA AFFAIRS

President Roosevelt's message is of about the same length as the famous "free trade" message of Grover Cleveland of 1887. The latter was a tedious discussion of but one topic—the tariff; that of Mr. Roosevelt touches, in a business-like way, all subjects which, in his opinion, need the attention of the national legislature. These are all handled briefly, yet the document is a long one—an evidence of the growth of the nation, and the corresponding increase of business with which the federal government must deal.

Naturally, the portion of the document of prime interest is his discussion of isthmian affairs. Nearly one-quarter of the message is devoted to this subject. Viewed solely in a historical light, it is a compact summary of affairs relating to the isthmus of Panama, from the negotiation of the treaty of 1846 with New Granada up to the present time. Incidentally the President takes occasion to reply to the arguments of Senator Morgan and other opponents of the new Panama treaty.

One of these is that the act of congress of June 28, 1902, directing that we should take the Panama route under treaty with Colombia, does not permit its construction under the treaty with the new republic of Panama, without further legislation by Congress. The President points out that the essence of this condition refers to the route itself, not to the government which controlled the route at that time; that the mandate is to build at Panama, if a satisfactory treaty could be made with the power controlling that isthmus. Such a treaty has been signed and ratified by the new republic; and the President asks its prompt ratification by the senate.

No less trenchant is the reply which the message makes to the charges of unfairness toward Colombia, and the senseless assumptions that the isthmian revolution was secretly formented by the Washington authorities. This is in the form of a review of the relations of the United States to the matter of transit across the isthmus. We are bound to guarantee the neutrality of the isthmus, that traffic between the oceans may not be interrupted or embarrassed. In the fifty-seven years which have passed since that treaty was negotiated, there have been fifty-three revolutionary attempts and other outbreaks—averaging nearly one per annum. Mr. Roosevelt trenchantly comments that the experience of these years "has shown Colombia to be utterly incapable of keeping order on the isthmus," and that only our active interference has enabled her to preserve even the semblance of sovereignty. Had it not been for the exercise by the United States of the police power authorized by the treaty, Colombia's connection with the isthmus would have ended long ago; and the President brings the historical proof of this assertion.

The course of the Colombian government regarding the Hay-Herran treaty, and its representations since Panama's declaration of independence are shown in their true colors. Mr. Roosevelt shows that the provisions of the new treaty with Panama are far more favorable than those of the convention which Colombia so contemptuously rejected, while the compensation for these enlarged grants remains the same. The argument thus presented for its prompt ratification is a strong one.

The message shows that the United States has not taken a single step on the isthmus beyond the provisions of our treaty obligations. We are bound to protect the railroad across the isthmus and its terminals from any possibility of acts of violence which would interfere with peaceable traffic. In the recent revolution, we have done this, and nothing more, and nothing was done to further the revolutionary movement. The logic of events, and not the greed of the United States, is the cause of the present conditions on the isthmus of Panama.

NOMINATIONS BY OPPOSITION STATES

The statement was made a short time ago that an effort was to be made by some of Senator Hanna's "fool friends" to make him a Presidential candidate despite his own positive opposition. Literature booming his name has been circulated in the South, and it was said to be the policy of these boomers to gather in the Southern delegations to next year's Republican national convention, and to start the roll-call of states for Hanna with solid delegations from the Southern states which head the list—Alabama, Arkansas, etc.

If any one really contemplated such a step, it was in the mistaken belief that New York would antagonize the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt, and that other Eastern states might thus be induced to join in the effort to nominate the senator. The understanding reached a few days ago at the conference of Gov. Odell, Senator Platt and the President, removes New York from the calculations. It is as certain as any future event can well be, that the Empire state delegation will be solid for the President; and there is no reason to suppose that the Republicans of any other of the northeastern group of states will oppose his candidacy.

All this talk brings up again a subject which has been discussed quadrennially for a number of years among Republicans. It first came prominently before the party when Mr. Harrison was renominated at Minneapolis in 1892. There was a division of opinion among the Republicans of the states which must be depended upon for Republican electoral votes. The renomination of Mr. Harrison was due to the convention votes of Southern states, none of which were liable to choose Republican electors. Mr. Harrison was defeated. The lesson of that campaign was, that the states that send Republicans to the electoral college should have control of the matter of the nomination of the candidate.

This could be done by basing the number of delegates sent by each state upon the number of Republican votes cast at a previous election—either the last Presidential contest, or that for Representatives in Congress two years before. At present, each state is entitled to double as many delegates as it has Senators and Representatives in Congress. For example, Ohio has 21 Representatives and two Senators—a total of 23. This gives her 46 delegates in a national convention.

As the number of Representatives from any state is apportioned according to population, the national convention thus gives to each state a delegation representing its total population rather than its Republican vote. This gives to the Democratic states an unfair advantage over the Republican ones. If each state were given four delegates at large, as at present, and the number of other delegates were in proportion to the total Republican vote of the state, this inequality would vanish, and the national convention would represent the Republican vote. The danger of forcing the nomination of a man against the wishes of the great Republican states would thus be obviated. The folly of 1892 could not be repeated.

The matter is one that can be decided only by a national convention. Next year would be an excellent one to discuss the change, for there will be no second term candidacy to embarrass the delegates, and they can consider the proposition on its merits.

THE MESSAGE ON TRUSTS, CAPITAL AND LABOR

Those portions of the Presidential message which are of most general interest, aside from Panama canal affairs, are those referring to the relations of capital and labor, and to the proper restriction and regulation of the vast organizations of capital known as trusts.

As to the former topic, Mr. Roosevelt declares his policy with characteristic frankness, it is, "to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employee; but to refuse to weaken individual initiative, or to hamper or cramp the industrial development of the country." The fact is recognized that this is an age of combinations; and that these, both of labor and of capital, have become industrial factors of tremendous importance. These must be treated alike; they must be subservient to the general public interest, and each "shall conform to the fundamental rules of obedience to law, of individual freedom, and of justice and fair dealing toward all." Most emphatic is the President's insistence that every man must be guranteed the right to do as he likes with his property or his labor, so long as he does not infringe the rights of others. "No man is above the law, and no man is below it." That this ground is impregnable, needs no argument.

The message begins with a congratulation to the country on what has been done in the way of exercising proper supervision over corporations and combinations of corporations. The President believes the establishment of the new department of commerce and labor, with a bureau of corporations, is a real advance in the solution of questions involving capital and labor. The commercial and industrial interests of the nation are the field of duty and authority of that new department. Emphasis is again given to the President's well known belief in proper publicity in corporate affairs as a remedy for certain evils; and he puts the matter squarely to the opponents of such publicity when he points out that the corporation whose managers in conducting it recognize their obligation to deal honestly and fairly with its stockholders, its competitors and the public has nothing to fear from the supervision of the government.

The recent legislation by Congress for expediting suits under the anti?trust law, for equal treatment to all in transportation, and for supervision over corporations, is commended as safe and conservative. It does not attack corporations, but provides against their misuse; it draws the line against misconduct, not against wealth; it supervises actions only to prevent wrong-doing. An urgent recommendation is made for an increase of the appropriation for the use of the Department of Justice, for the due enforcement of these and other laws. It is difficult to see what objection any honest and patriotic American, whether interested in corporations or in railways, whether an employer or an employee, whether producer or consumer, can find to the strong and statesmanlike position Mr. Roosevelt takes on these important topics.

PENALTIES NEEDED FOR RELIGIOUS SWINDLERS

The attention of state legislatures this winter should be drawn to the necessity of protecting the public, or at least the gullible portion thereof, from the machinations of religious frauds and fakirs. The Illinois lawmakers might well lead off with the case of Dowie in evidence before them. There is a class of people who need legal safeguards against this class of swindlers quite as much as others need similar safeguards against green goods men, sellers of gold bricks, and other frauds common to the great fraternity of "mazuma separators."

Dowie started in at Chicago as a "healer" of the sick. The cloak of religion was thrown around his proceedings, and he found exceedingly profitable pickings among the credulous. As his wealth grew, so did his religious pretensions, which have culminated in his impudent claim to be a reincarnation of Elijah the prophet, and to the possession of similar miraculous powers. It was not until he started to build a city, peopled with his dupes, that he overreached himself and got into financial difficulties which have forced Zion city into bankruptcy.

Laws should be enacted to reach such persons as Dowie. Any man who starts out with a new religious cult which inures to his own profit, is either insane on the subject, or he is a conscious swindler. The law should deal with him as summarily as with a gold-brick man. If found mentally unbalanced, he should be committed to whatever institution the state provides for its criminal insane; if found to be sane, he should be sent to the penitentiary, to learn by laboring for the state that the way of the transgressor is hard.

KODAKS AT ST. LOUIS.

The amateur photographer will be in his glory at the St. Louis exposition next year. The directors have announced that there will be no restrictions whatever on the carrying of cameras into the exposition grounds and buildings by non-professionals or on their use afterward. The exposition will be a festival for snap-shots, and the kodak will be in evidence everywhere. The New York Commercial says:

> This is not only liberal and sensible; it is "good business" as well. Already the operators of kodaks and cameras are flocking into the grounds by the scores and hundreds, and while probably nine-tenths of them are non-professionals and take the views and then develop and print them only for the pleasure and satisfaction that it affords, both they and the other one-tenth—professionals, who will manage to sneak in as amateurs—will become among the best advertisers of it that the fair could possibly secure. A Chicago man holds the photographic concession at the St. Louis show, and he has been moving heaven and earth to get a ruling that will shut out all photographers—but to no avail. The narrow spirit that moved the Chicago world's fair management to charge $2 a day for the privilege of carrying even the smallest camera into the grounds proved to be a boomerang. The revenue from it amounted to little or nothing, and the regulation prejudiced visitors against buying photographs inside the gates.

"L'AFFAIRE DREYFUS."

The French government will probably grant the appeal of Dreyfus for a revision of the sentence of the court martial at Rennes. His persistent fight against conspiracy, forgery, race hatred and the hideous injustice they dealt out to him will be rewarded by a reopening of the case. General Andre, the minister of war, has been going over the matter for some five months. He has found that false testimony was given at the trial and that the real guilt belongs to Major Esterhazy instead of to the unfortunate Jewish captain of artillery, who was made the scapegoat.

If Dreyfus be an innocent victim—and the presumption is very strong that this is the case—a vindication is demanded as a matter of simple justice. But the affair can not end there. The punishment of those who gave false testimony, of those who aided in the conspiracy, is demanded in behalf of the honor of the French army. In the Rennes trial "the honor of the army" was the cry of the maligners of Dreyfus; and by an erratic perversion of sentiment it was assumed that the army's honor demanded a conviction. It was assumed that the army must not be left under the stigma of having convicted an innocent man because of corruption and malignant race hatred. It was the only way to technically clear the reputations of the officers who had sworn falsely and forged official documents to convict Dreyfus. The vindication of these scoundrels by the conviction of Dreyfus was considered the only way of vindicating the honor of the army.

That the reopening of the case will create a huge sensation is certain; but it is doubtful if the ignorance and prejudice of the French masses, especially in Paris, will be excited to the same absurd pitch they were at the time of the Rennes trial. The mob is fickle; it tires of a subject quickly. The embers of the former fire can not be rekindled. In fact, it would not be surprising to see mobs made up of the same people who howled "Conspuez Dreyfus!" a few years ago, marching through the Paris streets demanding condign punishment for the men who were involved in the conspiracy against the unfortunate artillery captain.

ASTONISHING FIGURES AS TO AMERICAN FARMS

The seventh annual report of the secretery of agriculture gives one a luminous idea of the magnitude of the farming interests of the United States. The export trade in farm staples shows the remarkable growth of this fundamental industry. In 1851, the total value of our exports of agricultural products was only 147 million dollars. For 1901, it was 950 millions. This is an increase per annum in a half-century of 550 per cent. The average value of farm exports for the closing decade of the nineteenth century was over 700 million dollars per year.

The three great classes of farm exports are grain and breadstuffs generally, live animals, meats and meat products, and cotton. For the last year, the exports of the first reached a total of 221 million dollars; of the second, 211 millions, and of cotton 317 millions. There was a total of 129 millions of all other agricultural products outside the three classes named above, making total exports for 1902 of 878 millions.

Secretary Wilson shows that our favorable balance of foreign trade is due entirely to the farmers. He gives the totals for the past fourteen years, showing that the balance of trade in favor of farm products was 4,806 million dollars, while in products other than agricultural the balance of trade was against this country to the extent of 865 million dollars. The farmers, after feeding the entire population of the United States, out of their surplus not only canceled this huge adverse balance, but placed 3,940 million dollars to our credit in balancing our international trade.

As remarked above, the huge volume of our agricultural exports is merely what is left over after supplying our own requirements. Vast as are the export totals, they are insignificant as compared with the totals of farm production. Secretary Wilson gives the value of all farm products, not fed to live stock, for 1903 as considerably more than their value in the census year, when it was given as 3,742 million dollars. The department's figures on live stock give the value of horses at over 1,000 million dollars, of mules 200 millions, of cattle over 1,3 0 millions, sheep 108 millions and hogs 365 millions.

Agriculture is the basic industry of the United States. The farm is the cornerstone of our prosperity, and the farmer marches in the van of national progress.

KANSAS EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

The decision of the United States supreme court, upholding the constitutionality of the eight-hour statute enacted by the Kansas legislature in 1891, should not be misconstrued as affecting in any way the privileges of individuals respecting private contracts. The Kansas law provided that eight hours should constitute a day's work for employes of the state, county, city or other municipality in the state. A contractor for public work undertook to disregard the statute, and, after a series of defeats in the state courts, carried his case to the court of last resort.

The highest tribunal of the land held that the contractor was, in this case, a servant of the state and came therefore under the provisions of the eight-hour enactment. Manifestly the state has the right, as guardian and trustee of the people, to prescribe the conditions under which it will permit public work to be done. But the court takes care to disclaim any intention of making the law applicable to private contracts, a question which the court declares is one "of very large import."

Mr. Cleveland having removed the thorn of his candidacy from the side of Col. Watterson, the political doctors are ready to give the Kentucky editor a clean bill of political health. The colonel is to be congratulated on his quick recovery.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

The New Canal Treaty.

Expectation was met by the prompt ratification of the new canal treaty by the junta at Panama on December 2. No modification of any kind was suggested. Official telegrams announcing the action of the junta were at once sent to the minister of the new republic at Washington, and the contents were immediately communicated by him to Secretary Hay. It is expected that the treaty will encounter some degree of opposition in the senate, but it will be promptly reported to that body, and will be kept before it until final action is had. The leaders of the majority feel confident of its ratification. They believe that the time has come for the digging of an interoceanic canal, and that the treaty will even have the support of some among the minority who do not like the way in which recent events on the isthmus have come about.

Gen. Reyes at Washington.

Gen. Reyes' position in Washington is peculiar, and will be even more peculiar when his mission fails, as it must. Gen. Reyes is the special diplomatic agent at Washington. He is also the commander-in-chief of the Colombian army, and it is understood that the issue of peace or war is in his hands, so far as Colombia is concerned. Gen. Reyes came here to demand that the United States should withdraw its recognition of the republic of Panama and leave Colombia free to conquer the new state. He has been induced to abandon this program and to content himself with a demand that the question shall be submitted to The Hague. He has threatened that if this demand is refused he will at once order the Colombian army to move against Panama. The demand will be refused. If Gen. Reyes carries out his threat while in United States territory, he will constitute himself a prisoner of war and leave his army without a leader. Even if he doesn't send the order from Washington, the government would probably be justified in detaining him because he himself has declared that a refusal of his demand would be tantamount to a declaration of war.

The Prosperity Outlook.

The average well-being of the various business communities of the United States stands so far above that of any previous time as to make the conditions of today distinctively unique. Some of the commonwealths have wholly retired their indebtedness, while the obligations of municipalities, with few exceptions, are less than in any previous year. In the west the farmers have not only paid off their mortgages, but have been creating a competence; the business men also have been prosperous, while in the southern states the advance in the price of their great products has lifted that whole section from the slough of despond to one of material prosperity. When the present cotton crop has been marketed the South will have more money by over a hundred millions than it had even a year or two ago, and the purchasing capacity of the people will be correspondingly increased. The disposition of the wheat and the corn crops in the West ought to and will insure to that great section prosperity in like proportion. That there has been a lull in and a recession of the speculative wave in Wall street is true, but even that may prove a blessing in disguise. In the east during the past three years the abnormal prosperity stimulated the price of labor, but that is now being readjusted. The readjustment, however, ought not to be so disturbing as to endanger a healthful return for the capital invested or deprive labor of a reasonable compensation. Considering all these things, there would seem to be no reason for pessimism, although it is not only possible but probable that under the searchlight of current investigation overcapitalized enterprises and fake schemes which have dazzled the public eye for the time being will be forced to their true level by the second sober thought of public opinion.

November Treasury Showing.

There is nothing alarming in the fact that the government's expenditures exceed its receipts for November by $2,700,000. In 1897 the November receipts showed an excess of $5,500,000 over expenditures, and at the end of that fiscal year the government was in the vocative as between income and outgo to the extent of $18,000,000. On the other hand, the November expenditures and receipts last year just about offset each other, and at the close of the fiscal year last June receipts overtopped expenditures more than $91,000,000.

Only five months of the current fiscal year have expired as yet and, while this period shows a net excess of expenditures of about $2,000,000, there is still ample time for the creation of a handsome balance on the other side of the page. Nearly the whole of the excess of receipts over expenditures in 1902 occurred in the last half of that year.

Bank Note Circulation.

National bank-note circulation is now at the high-water mark. On December 1 the total circulation outstanding was $421,106,979, all of which, with the exception of about $30,000,000, was based on government bonds. The remainder was based on deposits of lawful money. The low record of national bank-note circulation since Appomattox was $167,577,214, on July 1, 1891.

No doubt, this growth in circulation is due in considerable measure to the recent law by which the organization of national banks with less than $50,000 of capital is permitted. Numbers of these smaller institutions have been opened of late, especially in the south and the west, and as the law in question was passed partly in answer to a demand for a larger volume of paper currency, it is evidently accomplishing its object. Probably the same cause accounts largely for the greater ability of the south and the west to provide now for the moving of the crops out of their own resources.

These statements seem to be borne out by the fact that national bank-note circulation has almost doubled in the last four years and more than doubled in the last six years. The increase for the single year ended December 1, last, is over $56,000,000. The per capita circulation of the country for every kind of currency is now $30. In 1896 it was only $21.10.

Japan and Russia.

Great uncertainty surrounds the negotiations between Russia and Japan, but it is clear at least that the rumored settlement—the mutual recognition of the Manchurian and Corean spheres of influence—is not a settlement at all. Russia can hardly mean to leave Japan free to force the opening of Corean ports, while Japan will hardly sign away her pretensions to a share of Manchurian trade. In short, the assertion of the status quo by treaty would merely mean that the cause of the quarrel is to be indefinitely continued. Potential factors making for war are the prevalence of a belligerent spirit in Japan, as evidenced by student petitions and by the impending union of the progressive and constitutional parties to force the ministry's hand. A country that is spoiling for a fight usually gets it. And Japan, even if the mysterious purchase of two Chilian battleships should not be traced to Tokio, is in a warlike mood. But it takes two to make a quarrel, and Russia has every reason for delay. Strikes and revolutionary movements press her from behind, and the Manchurian advance itself has been so costly that the additional expense of a war is appalling. All that is certain is that no discoverable adjustment of an inevitable conflict has other than a temporary look.

NEW ORLEANS TO CELEBRATE IN OLD COLONIAL BUILDINGS

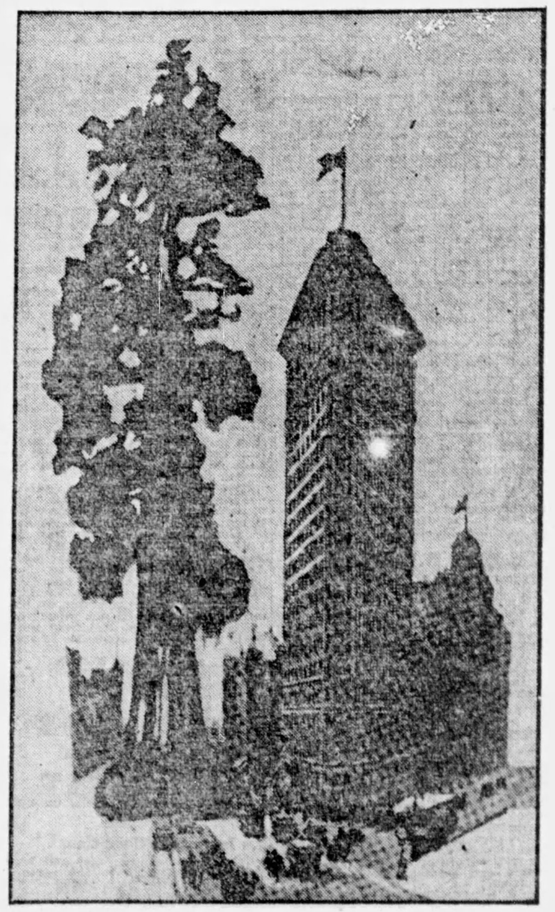
JACKSON SQUARE, BIRTHPLACE OF NEW ORLEANS AND SCENE OF LOUISIANA'S TRANSFER.
FROM LESLIE'S WEEKLY.

New Orleans, Dec. 3.—In celebrating the centennial of the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, December 18 and 20, New Orleans will hold most of the exercises in century old buildings that are standing now much as they stood in the old Colonial days. The principal of these are the Cabildo, or old city hall; the St. Louis cathedral, and the Ursuline convent, now the archiepiscopal palace.

The ambassadors from France and Spain will be present; war ships from each of these nations will join a portion of the Atlantic squadron in the river opposite the historic Place d'Armes, and governors of states and distinguished citizens generally are expected to add importance to the occasion.

Facing the cathedral is the old Place d'Armes, now Jackson Square, where that martial hero bestrides his horse with his uplifted chapeau. In this square, the meeting ground for two centuries of inhabitants, the flagstaff stands on which the raising of the American colors will be re-enacted.

A REMARKABLE CONTRAST.



A shrewd railroad advertising man has issued a poster showing the difference in size of the famous big tree in the Mariposa grove near Yosemite Valley, Cal., and the Flatiron Building. The tree is 400 feet high, and is said by scientists to be 9,000 years old. It is taller by 114 feet than the Flatiron. Enough one inch boards could be cut from this big tree to entirely sheathe the building. At least, that is the estimate of the advertising man.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. ROOSEVELT

MRS THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 2.—Today is the seventeenth anniversary of the wedding of President and Mrs. Roosevelt, and the event was remembered by their friends with letters and telegrams of congratulation and floral offerings. There was no celebration of the anniversary, as the Roosevelts are in mourning on account of the death of the President's uncle, James K. Gracie, of New York.

The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt took place in St. George's church, Hanover Square, London, December 2, 1886, Mrs. Roosevelt's cousin, Canon Gueteridge, officiating.

Current Events.

Treasury receipts and expenditures nearly equal.

Flag of new Panama republic accepted by President Roosevelt from junta and sent through Admiral Cromwell.

Contest between capital and labor threatened by national employers' convention, which meets in Chicago December 10 to organize open shop crusade.

Winter wheat condition unsatisfactory according to government's monthly report; injury caused by Hessian fly and drought in Kansas, Missouri, and Indiana.

Zion founded in 1901 and has 10,000 population, with 2,500 buildings; land minus improvements valued at $708,000; lace and candy factory its chief industries.

Dowie's immediate liabilities placed at $385,000, including $120,000 due January 1 on mortgages, $40,000 on lawsuits, $150,000 on dividends, and $40,000 on salaries.

Thousands of bituminous coal miners will be laid off in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois unless 20 per cent decrease in wages is accepted by mineworkers.

Town of Greenwood, Del., nearly wrecked by an explosion of dynamite. Two killed and 100 injured. Many houses burned.

Admiral Taylor, in his annual report, says the United States needs a naval general staff, more men and ships of war.

Representative Livingston, of Georgia, declares that the south favors Gorman or Parker for president, and says that either one "can defeat Roosevelt."

Man yagricultural collleges are considering the establishment of departments of rural mechanical engineering to teach boys the construction and care of valuable farm machinery.

Senator Foraker urges that Republican leaders squarely meet the tariff issue. He favors free trade with the Philippines, and says the party should not be afraid of the debate such a measure would raise in congress.

William K. Vanderbilt, jr., will assist his father in the latter's railroad work.

Private in the Colorado militia is arrested as a spy and may suffer the death penalty.

James L. Blair, former general counsel of the St. Louis world's fair, is arrested on two indictments and furnishes bail in sum of $10,000.

District Attorney Jerome says he has converted Bishop Potter, Rev. W. S. Rainsford and others to a belief in the Sunday opening of saloons.

Governor Bliss, of Michigan, voluntarily relinquishes his pension of $12 a month because he doubts the propriety of receiving it when he is not in need.

Pennsylvania railroad is engaged in a stiff legal battle to save from condemnation by sanitary board freight terminals along the river valued at $16,000,000.

Chicago banks, which shipped something like $75,000,000 to the west and southwest during the crop-moving period, report that the money is beginning to return in unusual amounts.

Movement is started at a meeting attended by Admiral Dewey, General Miles and others to enlist public sentiment in a demand for an arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain.

President Harper in New York City says the University of Chicago will not receive its customary Christmas gift from John D. Rockefeller, but intimates the contribution will come later in larger form.

Wild excitement and an unprecedented advance in the price of cotton on the New York and New Orleans exchanges are caused by the government estimate of a smaller crop than last year. The transactions in New York reach 2,150,000 bales.

Automobile sales in United States during 1903 estimated at 11,000 cars, worth $12,000,000; 200 cars imported.

Aldermen William Murphy and S. J. Richter are arrested in Milwaukee on the charge of soliciting and accepting a bribe.

Dun's review of trade says that holiday specialties are in request, with good promise of active dealing until Christmas.

William Astor Chanler, explorer and soldier, and descendant of John Jacob Astor, weds Miss Minnie Ashley, a musical comedy actress.

General staff for navy, appointment of two vice admirals, more officers, and eight new cruisers recommended by Rear Admiral Taylor.

Martial law is declared at Cripple Creek, Col. Governor Peabody issues a proclamation declaring that Teller county is in a state of insurrection.

Work on buildings costing $20,000,000 in ten cities, will be stopped today by strike of structural ironworkers on George A. Fuller and Iron league contracts.

Diversion of freight from eastern lines caused by increased rates on grain and flour; Great Western and other railroads preparing to ship flour to gulf.

Russian cruiser Bayan and battleship Tsarevitch reached Port Arthur, although Japanese warships were reported on lookout to prevent; both nations for peace.

Russia and Austria propose that the powers administer Macedonia along the same general lines as they have applied to Crete. It is likely the scheme will commend itself to all the nations interested, except Germany.

SILVER-PLATED TABLEWARE

We offer our readers, this season, the Rogers Bros.' very handsome Carlton pattern of spoons. These goods are plated with pure silver on nickel silver base, and are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers.

The knives are first coated with copper, then heavily plated with nickel and afterwards with silver. The nickel plate not only doubles the durability of the goods, but, being nearly impervious to moisture, renders knives so plated less liable to rust than those plated in the ordinary way. Prices:

½ doz. Teaspoons..... $3.0
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All goods are sent by open mail or express, all charges prepaid by us. If you desire package registered, send 8c extra. A charge of 2c per letter is made for engraving.

Address all orders to
THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Waltham and Elgin Watches

We now make the most remarkable offers in the history of the watch business—WALTHAM and ELGIN watches only, regular 18 size and 6 size, in cases of the highest grade. Our gold cases are made of solid gold in two thick plates, reinforced with a sheet of fine composition metal. If properly used the 25-year cases will last a lifetime. Every watch contains Breguet hairspring, quick train, compensation balance, safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus of the latest design, and all the greatest improvements known to modern expert watchmakers. WALTHAM and ELGIN watches don't wear out. They are all good. Of course, full (15) jeweled works in 25-year cases are better than 7 jeweled works in 20-year cases, but all are fully guaranteed. Why not have correct time? You can have it if you are fortunate enough to get one of our watches. These offers are not for the general public, but any subscriber may buy all he wishes at these prices, which are far lower than dealers' prices for watches not so good. Our men's watches are suitable for boys and our ladies' watches for girls.

The cases are plain or engine-turned. Engraved cases are extra, as per rates quoted in our list.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 75—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $14.80
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
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Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 82—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 14.00
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DESCRIPTION

MOVEMENT—17 jeweled, 16 size, adjusted to heat and cold.

CASE—20-year, 16 size, engine turned, hunting..... $18.00

This watch cannot be purchased at any store for less than $30.00.

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Our Watch Leader:

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A 20-year, gold filled, open face, S. B. & B. plain or engine turned, 16 size case, fitted with 7 jewel Elgin or Waltham movement $9.50

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$7.00 and $7.50

A handsome gold filled hunting case, guaranteed to wear ten years, fitted with a 7-jeweled N. Y. Standard movement.

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THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Cut Paper Patterns.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered. Do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds. Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

Girls' Coat, No. 9162.

Pale gray panne zibeline is here trimmed with marine blue velvet, white lace and fancy gray and blue braid.

The coat is simply adjusted with shoulder and underarm seams, fits well on the shoulders and hangs loosely in box effect to the hem. The closing is made invisibly in double-breasted style.

The neck is finished without a collar and completed with a band of braid that also edges the fronts. A fancy velvet collar is square in the back and forms long tabs in front, giving the fashionable width to the shoulders. The collar is

9162—Girl's Coat.
4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

elaborately trimmed with lace.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the upper arm closely and are very wide at the wrist, where the fullness is arranged on narrow cuffs. These are covered with braid to match the front trimming.

Garments in this style are made of cloaking cloth, heavy silk or velvet, with lace, Persian embroidery, or chiffon applique for trimming. Some coats of zibeline or camel's hair have collars of plain cloth heavily machine stitched and the bands on the front are also of cloth.

To make the coat for a girl of 8 years will require 2¼ yards of material 44 inches wide, with ⅝ yard of velvet for trimming. The pattern, No. 9162, is cut in sizes for girls of 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Ladies' Evening Gown—Waist With Fancy Bertha, No. 9185, and Circular Skirt, With Shirred Flounce, No. 8974.

Crepe de chine is still the favorite fabric for evening wear and comes in all the delicate pastel and "water" shades. The gown illustrated is made in a pale shade of blue, with blue lace and black chenille trimming.

The waist is mounted on a glove-fitted featherboned lining that closes in the center back, and is cut out round at the neck. The black is plain across the shoulders and blouses slightly over the girdle.

Full front are gathered and applied on the lining. They fall softly over the girdle, which has a slight dip in front. The bertha, which outlines the decolletage, has two long tabs in front and shorter ones in the back. It extends over the shoulders, giving becoming breadth to the figure. The bertha is elaborately trimmed with lace and has chenille on the edges.

Very full sleeves are gathered at the upper edge and attached to the short fitted caps. They hang softly and flare widely at the wrist. The waist may be made high neck and the sleeves arranged

9185—Ladies' Waist with Fancy Bertha.
8974—Ladies' Skirt.

Waist, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.
Skirt, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inch waist.

on narrow wristbands if desired, the pattern providing for these changes.

The upper portion of the skirt is fitted smoothly around the waist and hips with small darts. It closes invisibly at the center back in habit effect. The lower edge of the circular portion is shaped in large scallops that are finished with lace and trimmed with large motifs.

A deep, full flounce is attached to the edge of the skirt and falls in long graceful folds to the floor. It touches in front and has a slight train at the back. The flounce is finely shirred between the scallops and has one row of shirring just below them. It is edged with a chenille cord.

Dresses in this style may be made of silk, crepe, collenne, satin, silks, voille, Lansdowne or any of the soft fabrics that are made expressly for evening wear. Lace, chiffon, applique, hand embroidery and soft ribbons make suitable trimmings.

To make the waist in the medium size will require 2¾ yards of material 36 inches wide, with 1 yard of contrasting material for trimming. The pattern, No. 9185, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

To make the skirt in the medium size will require 7 yards of material 36 inches wide. The pattern, No. 8974, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32-inch waist measure.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and the bust measure also.

Ladies' Stoles, No. 9165.

Fashionable velvet gowns are so heavy that they may be worn on very cold days if accompanied by one of the new fur stoles that are large enough to afford some protection.

The illustration shows two new designs in stoles. One is made of Persian lamb with ermine trimmings. It is fitted with seams on the shoulders in order that it may be closely adjusted over the sleeves.

9165—Ladies' Stoles.
One size.

This stole forms a shallow cape in the back and has long pointed tabs in front that reach almost to the knee.

The ermine stole has a point in the back and one on each shoulder, and ends that reach below the belt. Chenille fringe is used to trim the edges of the stole, and fancy ornaments at the neck have chenille pendants.

Stoles in this style may be made of velour, velvet, lace or quilled chiffon and lined with taffeta or figured brocade.

To make the stoles will require 1½ yards of material 44 inches wide. The pattern, No. 9165, includes both designs and is cut in one size only—medium.

Fancy Waist, No. 9183, and Ten-Gored Skirt, Circular Flounce, No. 9150.

Shades of violet and mauve are very fashionable at present and look particularly rich in velvet. The gown illustrated

9183—Ladies' Fancy Waist.
9150—Ladies Skirt.

Waist, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.
Skirt, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist.

is made of violet velvet with white lace trimmings.

The waist has for its foundation a glove fitted featherboned lining that closes in the center front. The back is plain across the shoulders and drawn down close to the waist, where there are tiny plaits in the center.

Full fronts are gathered and arranged on the lining at a pointed yoke depth. They blouse slightly and close invisibly in the center under an applied vest of velvet. This is permanently attached to the right side, and fastens invisibly on the left.

A pointed drop yoke of lace is included in the neck seam with a transparent lace collar. It extends over the sleeves in a becoming manner. Full puff sleeves are gathered at the upper and under edges and arranged on deep cuffs of lace, over which they droop stylishly.

The skirt is shaped with ten gores, fitted smoothly around the waist and hips without darts. It closes invisibly at the center back in habit effect. A sheath effect is maintained from belt to knee.

Below the knee each gore is cut away to form a fancy tab, the round end being filled with a lace motif. Each gore is outlined with lace and has a long, narrow medallion in the upper part of the tab.

The flounce is of circular shaping and graduates in depth toward the back. It is attached to the gored portion above the tabs, which are interlined and finished separately, swinging slightly away from the flounce when the wearer walks.

The skirt is decorated with lace medallions between the tabs. The skirt touches in front and has a graceful sweep at the back, the flounce giving a smart flare around the bottom.

Costumes in this mode may be made of foulard, liberty satin, Lansdowne, peau de sole, crepe de chine and veiling, with lace, chiffon, applique bands of Persian embroidery for trimming.

To make the waist in the medium size will require 2¼ yards of material 44 inches wide, with 1 yard of lace. The pattern, No. 9182, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

To make the skirt in the medium size will require 6½ yards of material 44 inches wide. The pattern, No. 9150, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

Fancy Shirt-waist, No. 9173.

Some smart shirt waists are made of two fabrics, different shades of the same color being preferred to strong contrasts.

The shirt waist illustrated is made of bronze cheviot, with biscuit-colored ladies' cloth and brown velvet ribbon for trimming. It is mounted on a glove-fitted featherboned lining that closes in the center front.

The back is plain with slight fulness at the belt. The closing is made with large pearl buttons and buttonholes worked through a broad center box plait. Two tucks in the fronts are stitched down part way, the fronts blousing a trifle over the brown velvet belt.

A drop yoke is included in the neck seam with the collar. The yoke has two pointed tabs back and front and one on each shoulder. The points are fastened securely with buttons. The collar is also provided with tiny tabs.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arm closely from shoulder to elbow. They are quite wide at the lower edge, where the fulness is arranged on wristbands which are shaped to match the yoke. The trimming is machine stitched and finished with narrow bands of velvet on the edges.

Waists in this style are made of taffeta, peau de sole, French flannel, serge or

9173—Ladies' Fancy Shirt Waist.
32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.

cashmere, and trimmed with silk, lace or velvet.

To make the waist in the medium size will require 2½ yards of material 36 inches wide, with one yard for trimming. The pattern, No. 9173, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

Girls' Dress, Fancy Collar, No. 9166.

Pale green Lansdowne is here effectively trimmed with white lace and green velvet of a darker shade than the material.

The two-piece body lining closes in the

9166—Girls' Dress with Fancy Collar.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

center back and is faced with lace to simulate a vest. This is completed with a shallow collar. Three backward-turning tucks extend from neck to belt in the back. The fronts blouse stylishly.

A fancy collar has two scallops in the back and one on each shoulder. It completes the edges of the fronts and terminates at the belt. It is of velvet, finished with narrow lace edging.

The puff portions of the sleeves are tucked in "slots" that are stitched down a short distance. They are attached to the lower edge of short, fitted puffs, and the seams concealed by bands of lace. The sleeves are very wide at the wrists, where the fulness is gathered and arranged on narrow velvet bands.

Plaits in the skirt are stitched flatly the depth of a yoke, but below the stitching the plaits flare smartly, retaining their plaited folds to the hem. The skirt is attached to the lower edge of the body portion and closes at the back. The seam is covered by a narrow velvet belt.

Dresses in this style are made of Henrietta, poplin, serge, cheviot or flannel, and trimmed with braid, embroidery, silk or lace.

To make the dress for a girl of 8 years will require 2½ yards of material 44 inches wide, with one-half yard of lace and one yard of velvet for trimming. The pattern, No. 9166, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Address as follows, including the price of the pattern ordered:

PATTERN DEPARTMENT,
THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO

RAID ON THE MAFIA.

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—A tenement house on Carpenter street in the Italian quarter of the city was raided by the police, who captured fifteen supposed members of the Mafia. The raid was the result of complaints made to the police by Italian merchants and bankers, who said they had received blackmailing letters and had been threatened with death should they refuse to comply with demands for money. Each of the fifteen men arrested was armed with two 38 calibre revolvers and a stiletto. In the room were a number of pistols and a store of ammunition. At the hearing today one of the men admitted that he and his companions were members of the Mafia, and they were in communication with similar branches in New York, Baltimore and Pittsburg. They were held in $1,500 bail each on charges of carrying concealed deadly weapons, conspiracy and threatening to kill.

Joseph Mayer Dead.

Munich, Bavaria, Dec. 2.—Joseph Mayer, ex-burgomaster of Oberammergau, who was famous as the impersonator of Christus in the Passion Play of 1870, 1880 and 1890, and who was the choir leader in the performance in 1900, is dead.

GERMANY RECOGNIZED

The New Republic of Panama on December 4.

Colon, Dec. 5.—The German consul here, Herr Heuer, yesterday officially notified the government of Panama that he had received cable instructions from Germany to formally recognize the republic of Panama. Consequently the consul this morning paid an official visit to Prefect Melendez and tendered him on behalf of Germany, congratulations and best wishes for the welfare and future prosperity of the new republic.

The prefect made a suitable reply, and offered the republic's sincere thanks for Germany's recognition.

Colombia Fails at Vatican.

Rome, Dec. 5.—Senor Gutieoterez Ponce, the Colombian minister to the Vatican, after long interviews with Cardinal Merry Del Val, the papal secretary of state, and other prominent cardinals, is about to leave Rome without having obtained from the vatican the support for Colombia which he expected.

THE CANAL TREATY.

Panama, Dec. 3.—Last night's demonstration following the signing of the canal treaty was most enthusiastic. About 3,000 persons took part in it, which, for Panama, was a very large crowd. There were cheers for the United States and for President Roosevelt. From the palace the crowd went to United States Consul Gudger's residence and the quarters of Admiral Walker, where there was more cheering and the playing of national airs by a band of music.

The treaty will be turned over to Mr. Gudger today, who will immediately advise Washington thereof. It will be enveloped in Panamanian and American flags. Mr. Gudger will keep the document until December 8, when he will send it to the United States. If Admiral Walker leaves for New York December 8 by the steamer City of Washington, he will take the treaty with him. If not, Mr. Gudger will send it to the United States through the Panama Railroad Steamship company.

ANGER IN BOGOTA.

Bogota, Dec. 7.—Secretary Hay's statement, issued Nov. 6, regarding the action taken by President Roosevelt in recognizing the provisional government of Panama, in which the secretary declared that plain duty dictated that the President should act as he had done in the circumstances, has just been published here and is causing general indignation. The Bogota newspapers criticize it adversely and declare that it is lacking in logic and veracity.

ARSENIC IN FOOD.

London, Dec. 3.—The royal commission on arsenical poisoning from food and drink recommends the prohibition of the sale of beer and other liquid food or of any liquid entering into the composition of food, which contains one-hundredth of a grain or more of arsenic per gallon, and the prohibition of the sale of solid food containing one-hundredth of a grain per pound. "No matter whether habitually consumed in large or small quantities, or whether consumed alone (like golden syrup) or mixed with water or other substance (like chickory, etc.). The commissioners find there are serious defects in the present machinery available to safeguard the public and urge that more extended powers be given to the authorities to condemn unwholesome food, the establishment of official "standards" and the creation of a "board of reference," to which could be referred specific points, and whose decisions should be carried out by the department concerned, the latter's action being subject to the control of parliament.

EMPEROR FOR 55 YEARS.

Vienna, Dec. 2.—Throughout the dual monarchy today there were celebrations to mark the fifty-fifth anniversary of the accession of Emperor Francis Joseph to the throne. Business was suspended generally in the capital, and in all the churches special thanksgiving services were held. The emperor signalized the day by granting amnesty to a number of prisoners guilty of minor offences and also issued a proclamation to the army in which he thanked the soldiers for their loyalty and fearless valor during his reign.

Despite his age—seventy-three years—the emperor continues to enjoy good health and devotes a large part of each day to the business of state, giving personal attention to much of his voluminous correspondence and giving interviews on one day of each week to any of his subjects, no matter how humble their station, who may wish to make a personal appeal or request.

THE STEAMER GAUSS.

Kiel, Dec. 2.—The German antarctic exploring steamer Gauss, which Commander Perry may possibly purchase for his north pole expedition, is still at this port. Prof. Drygalski, leader of the expedition which returned last week, and

PROF E VON DRYGALSKI

other participants increased their weight while away. They declare that they are ready to undertake another polar journey immediately. The ship brought back a full year's provisions, some of which are to be sent to the St. Louis fair.

Prof. Drygalski declares the expedition succeeded in exploring an extensive line of coast. The professor says he regards the meteorological studies as extremely important.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 2.—The Argentina gunboat Uraguay with Dr. Otto Nordenskjold and the members of his Antarctic expedition, arrived here and entered the harbor today. A great celebration in honor of Dr. Nordenskjold and his fellow voyagers is in preparation.

TORPEDO BOAT ASHORE.

Cape Henry, Va., Dec. 4.—The submarine torpedo boat Moccasin is high and dry on Currituck beach. The boat is apparently in good condition, not a drop of water inside. The Yankton and Vixen have gone to the scene of the stranded vessel.

Washington, Dec. 4.—In a despatch to the navy department this morning from Admiral Harrington, commanding the navy yard at Portsmouth, Va., he reports the arrival of the Peoria, with the submarine boat Adder in tow and also that the Yankton had gone after the Moccasin in another attempt to rescue her.

RHEUMATISM

Cured by a New Remedy.

50,000 BOXES FREE.

Deformity of the hands in general Chronic Articular Rheumatism.

While an invalid from Rheumatism, when nothing in the world would even relieve me, I succeeded in combining five harmless ingredients into a compound which completely cured me contrary to the predictions of my doctor. I then tried this remedy on my friends and neighbors, suffering from rheumatism, also with such wonderful results that even prominent physicians had to admit that my remedy was a positive success.

Since then the remedy has cured hundreds of decrepit persons who could neither clothe nor feed themselves, among them persons of 70 and 80 years of age, who had suffered for more than 40 years. So positive am I what this remedy will do, that I have set aside **50,000 Boxes for free distribution** so that other unfortunate sufferers may profit by my good luck. It is a wonderful remedy and there is no doubt that it will cure all cases given up by doctors and hospitals.

Remember that I ask you for no money, simply send your name and address for free trial box, and should you want more you can have it at a small cost. It is not my intention to accumulate a big fortune out of my discovery, but what I want is to relieve misery and torture. Address John A. Smith, 3168 Germania Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis. Send NO money NOR stamps.

RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.

Their Plan to Settle Affairs in Macedonia.

Berlin, Dec. 5.—Referring to the London report that Germany may object to the proposition of Russia and Austria for the international administration of Macedonia on the lines of the present government of Crete, the foreign office here said today that, on the contrary, Germany has done all in her power to secure the acceptance and enforcement of the Muerstig program which became the basis of the Russian-Austrian action. These powers, it was added, had arranged their program to suit their own interests and it cannot be supposed that they have altered the same into an international administration similar to that of Crete to suit other powers.

The foreign office also referred to Chancellor Von Buelow's speech at the opening of the reichstag, saying that Germany had consistently done everything possible to prevent serious complications in the Balkans.

PEASANT REFORMS.

Moscow, Dec. 7.—Minister of the Interior Von Plehwe proposes to submit a new scheme for the peasant reforms ordered in the czar's recent manifesto to the consideration of an elective body to be composed of provisional committees. The proposed law embodying the new scheme was drawn after the inquiry recently instituted by the czar into the cause of the increasing poverty of the peasants. The members of the provincial committees will be elected in each district by the zemstovs, or elective provincial assemblies, composed of landed proprietors and representatives of the artisans and peasants. It is entirely a new departure for the Russian government to submit laws to the approval of an elective body, and there is a parliamentary smack about the proposal which delights the liberal minded Russians.

HE WILL RETIRE.

Paris, Dec. 2.—The Parie declares that the former premier, M. Waldeck Rousseau, angered at his recent reverse in the

M. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU

religious discussion in the senate, will soon retire from public life.

THE EMPEROR'S THROAT.

London, Dec. 7.—The Daily Mail understands that there is reason to fear a recrudescence of Emperor William's throat trouble and that it may be many weeks before the emperor regains the use of his voice, although the doctors are agreed that the trouble is not of a malignant character.

VENICE FLOODED.

Venice, Dec. 7.—As a result of the extremely bad weather, with a violent wind which has prevailed for some days, Venice was almost entirely under water for a few hours yesterday. At the piazza of the cathedral of St. Mark the flood rose to a height of four feet while inside the cathedral the water was so high as to threaten serious damage. Gondolas had to be used from shop door to shop door until bridges were improvised by the firemen, the ordinary bridges having disappeared. The water gradually subsided.

RED RAIN.

Rome, Dec. 8.—The phenomenon known as the "rain of blood" was noticed near Salerno during the fearful weather of the past few days, the raindrops being so red as to leave a stain resembling blood. This phenomenon is said to come from Sahara after a severe sandstorm, the sand of the desert being carried by the wind across the sea and mixing with the rain as it falls. This form of the phenomenon is somewhat rare, although it reached as far as Rome three years ago. Not understanding the reason of it, the peasants were very much frightened.

Toledo's Cathedral.

Madrid, Dec. 5.—Some plaster fell from an arch spanning the central nave of the cathedral at Toledo, disclosing several gaps in the stone work. Beyond showing the necessity for immediate repair, the injury is unimportant. The authorities have ordered a thorough inspection of the edifice, for which the government has granted $24,000. The cathedral is one of the most famous in the world. Its construction was begun in the thirteenth century and it was not completed till the end of the sixteenth century.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Trouble Will Be Settled for a Time at Least.

London, Dec. 2.—Japan and Russia are on the verge of a settlement of the far eastern controversy which promises to dissipate the war cloud that has been hanging over both countries. This settlement will be the result of the long-continued negotiations, and which were assisted by the friendly representations of France to Russia and of Great Britain to Japan. The two nations have practically agreed on the basis of a treaty.

The basis of this forthcoming agreement follows:

"1. Russia will accept the two agreements entered into by Japan and Corea, dated 1896 and 1898 respectively, under which Japan secured various rights in Corea, including the maintenance of a garrison at Seoul.

"2. Japan will accept Russia's treaty with China respecting Manchuria."

It is believed, though this cannot be stated as positively, that Japan and Russia will reiterate their support of the principles of the "open door" and the integrity of China and Corea.

The Japanese minister, Baron Hayashi on receiving news of the basis of the agreement reached between Russia and Japan said:

"That is splendid news. I have waited a long time in the hope of hearing it. With the basis reached it will only be a short time before the treaty is signed. The whole difficulty so far has been to arrive at a basis satisfactory to both nations."

Regarding the suggested arbitration of the difficulties between Japan and Russia Baron Hayashi remarked:

"No such proposition has been mentioned to me, and I doubt if the Manchurian question could be settled by that method. The Hague court appears to me to exist more for the purpose of interpreting knotty points of existing treaties than for dealing with such a territorial question as Manchuria."

The other embassies here are inclined to take a similar view of the arbitration suggestion.

Baron Hayashi denies that Japan has purchased, or is negotiating for either the Chilian or Argentine warships built in Europe for those republics.

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY

Vienna, Dec. 7.—Prince Otto of Windisch-Graetz, his youthful and immensely wealthy wife, Princess Elizabeth Marie, whom he married only a year ago, and a pretty actress of opera at Prague, are the central figures in an extraordinary story.

The princess, who is the granddaughter on her father's side of the Emperor of Austria, and on her mother's side of the King of the Belgians, only twenty years old, a royal personage who renounced her rights to the throne of Austria in order to marry as heart dictated, is asserted to have shot and seriously wounded a handsome young actress whom the prince is alleged to have had a rendezvous. The affair is said to have taken place in the palace on the estates of the prince's family at Prague.

It appears that Prince Otto had been secretly paying attention to the actress whose beauty has been causing a sensation in Prague. The princess, presumably informed by a disappointed suitor of the footlight favorite, that a rendezvous had been arranged in the palace, was thrown into a passion and hurried to the prince's apartment with a small revolver he had given her. A valet stood at the door and refused her admittance. She drew the revolver and fired, it is stated. The valet fled, screaming at the top of his voice. Entering the room the princess was confronted by her husband, who attempted to hold her arm, but she is then said to have been at the height of rage and to have fired point blank at the actress who cowered in a corner. The woman fell, severely but not fatally wounded over the breast and the princess fell in a swoon. The victim was hurriedly carried to her home and her servants spread the story, despite strenuous efforts to hush it up.

Prince Otto is 30 years old and was a lieutenant in the First regiment of Uhlans. The Austrian emperor, whose favorite granddaughter the princess is, opposed the match but finally consented and gave away the bride, whose marriage was celebrated in a magnificent way at Vienna after the archduchess had renounced her right of succession to the dual throne of Austria and Hungary. In consideration of her renunciation, the emperor gave to the bride securities valued at $1,600,000 a yearly allowance of $250,000, jewels worth $1,000,000, a gold dinner service and several residences.

The princess is the daughter of the unfortunate Crown Prince Rudolf, whose tragic death at his hunting lodge several years ago, was the sensation of the day.

This Will Interest Many.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publish says that if any one afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their address to him, at 804-76 Winthrop Bldg., Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell or give; only tells you how he was cured after years of search for relief. Hundreds have tested it with success.

PRESIDENT'S LEGACY.

New York, Dec. 4.—President Roosevelt is to receive $30,000 and his children, Kermit and Ethel, $5,000 each from the estate of the late James King Gracie, an uncle by marriage of the President. The will has been admitted to probate in the Nassau county surrogate's court. The will is a long document, covering every detail of the testator's possessions, and forgetting none of those related to him.

The President in the will fares the same as his sisters, Mrs. Cowles, the wife of Commander Cowles, U. S. N., and Mrs. Corinne Roosevelt Robinson. Kermit Roosevelt was the god-child of Mr. Gracie, and Ethel was the god-child of the testator's wife. The only institution remembered in the will is the Orthopaedic dispensary and hospital in Manhattan, which gets $5,000 for the endowment of a bed and $25,000 for a general endowment fund.

THAT NEW EAR.

New York, Dec. 3.—The western mine owner, who procured, through the medium of $5,000, a new ear, which was grafted upon his head after having been cut from another man's head, has returned from the private hospital in Philadelphia, where the operation was conducted by a New York surgeon. Circulation has been established in the foreign flesh and apparently the operation was a success. There is some swelling about the places where the stitches were taken and a few small gatherings of pus, but the surgeon says this is no menace to him and will soon disappear under treatment.

The man who sold his ear has returned to his home near Pittsburg, where he has a wife and child.

WIRELESS TROLLEY.

Atlantic City, N. J., Dec. 4.—The "wireless" trolley system invented by Leon W. Pullen, of Philadelphia was successfully tested over a mile of steam railroad track. The invention does away with the third rail through the use of a magnet. The equipment, which is easily adjusted, consists mainly of a highly magnetized bar running the entire length of the car. The feed wire is buried in the ground. At intervals of eighteen feet a metal cap four inches in diameter comes to the surface. This cap is harmless and has no connection with the feed wire. It only becomes charged when touched by the metal bar under the car.

ZION IS BANKRUPT.

It Is Now in the Hands of a Court Receiver.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—Receivers appointed by the federal court last night, began today going over the books of the Zion industries. Instead of Dowie, Federal Custodian Paul Dedieski, is technically head of the society and in control of its factories, employing about 4,000 persons. Efforts made throughout the night by Dowie's supporters are said to have netted nearly $25,000 in cash and it was said today that Dowie might come to Chicago without delay to take steps toward doing away with the receivership.

Judge C. C. Kohlsaat, who appointed the receivers on petition of creditors, entered an order today restraining the prosecution of any suits against Dowie, pending the results of the receivership appointed for Zion City.

Except at the bank, no sign of disturbance over bankruptcy proceedings against John Alexander Dowie was visible in Zion City today. The bank was closed and guarded both by United States deputy marshalls and by "Zion guards," the local police. Otherwise the Dowieite institutions were being conducted as if nothing unusual had happened.

Behind closed doors in Dowie's private office today, Dowie and his attorney met Custodian Redieski, and attorneys representing the creditors. The principal object was to plan for the continuation of the various industries. The secret conference is said to have been stormy at times, when Dowie became angered at what he called "presumption," on the part of his creditors.

Just what Dowie's embarrassment means in dollars and cents could not be learned. Suits aggregating more than $70,000 are pending and Dowie insists that Zion City is financially sound. The Christian Catholic church, he says, is worth $25,000,000 above all indebtedness.

United States Deputy Marshal Asa Udell, with a number of assistants accompanied Receiver Currier to the suburb. When they left the train at Zion station Zion guards at once surrounded the party and asked their business. The deputy explained the receivership and said the receiver had come to take possession.

"Peace be with you," said the guards.

"We must serve notice on Dowie at once," said Deputy Udell.

"Then we go with you. We must accompany any one who calls on Elijah," declared a lieutenant of the guards.

"Very well, but move along," replied the federal officer.

With Zion guards on all sides Deputy Udell and Receiver Currier went to Dowie's home, where they were admitted.

In the meantime Custodian Paul Redieske with several subordinates had gone to the Zion City Bank. As they marched to the small brick building a clerk fled from a rear door carrying a bundle of papers.

Redieske cried out: "Catch that fellow," and after a short chase the clerk was led back to the bank. The papers were taken by the custodian, but their nature was not divulged.

The receivership is a direct result of the suits for debt, which have been piling up against Dowie in the last few days. To meet the storm Dowie commanded all the dwellers in Zion to deposit all their money in Zion's bank. He sent broadcast to members of Zion in all the world letters directing them to "realize by immediate sale the cash proceeds of all their properties, invest in Zion securities or Zion land and come with all their house to Zion."

Responses were numerous. More than $15,000, it is said, was sent from members of Zion in Wisconsin. The day after Dowie's call to his people depositors crowded the Zion bank. But with their family coffers drained by the expenses of the recent crusade to New York their deposits were small.

So serious was the situation that the premises of school children were accepted.

In Zion City all title to real estate is vested in Dowie. The tract of land upon which Zion is built was bought on a five year payment plan. Several payments are due, the last one falling September 1, when Dowie paid up the interest and asked for more time. Mortgages on the land are held by the original owners and foreclosure would mean forfeiture of the lots and houses of the followers of Dowie.

CHINESE WERE ROUTED

Russian Troops Kill 200 of a Band of "Robbers."

St. Petersburg, Dec. 8.—The Russian troops have defeated a band of Chun-Chuses (Chinese robbers), on the Liau river, Manchuria, killing two hundred of them and wounding a similar number.

After the conflict, reported November 28, between a force of Russian soldiers and a body of Chun-Cifuses at Tsaichao, in which five Russians were killed and nine were severely wounded, the Russians pursued the fleeing tribesmen and finally hemmed them in at the Liau river. The great loss of the robbers is attributed in a Port Arthur dispatch to a "pame among the Chun-Chuses."

London, Dec. 8.—While President Roosevelt's message to congress is acknowledged to be of universal interest to the outside world, it evokes no striking comment from the London press. Both sides in the fiscal controversy seize points in it which, they contend, favor their particular claims. Perhaps the part attracting the most serious attention is the President's reference to the necessity for creating a great mercantile marine.

"CLEANING HOUSE"

A Change of Food Cleans the Soul's House.

When the body is clogged up by the use of improper food and sickness sets in there is nothing so good as a "house cleaning" and the right way to do this is to change the food, for although taking medicines may afford temporary relief a complete change of food is much the surest and safest way.

The highest medical authority in the world, "The Lancet" of London, says of Grape-Nuts: "Our analysis shows it is a nutritive of a high order since it contains the constituents of a complete food in very satisfactory and rich proportion and in an easily assimilable state." "About two years ago," says a resident of Springville, Ind., "I had terrible stomach trouble and although I tried all kinds of medicines none of them cured me. I was so run down I could not eat, got very little sleep, and was dizzy-headed and miserable all of the time. About that time a friend told me that the only way to cure my trouble was to change my food and recommended Grape-Nuts.

"From my very first meal of Grape-Nuts my stomach began to get better and all the improvements that come from a healthy stomach in place of an unhealthy one soon followed, and this was not all, for just as great an improvement came in my brain. All of the dizziness is gone and my brain is now clear and active. I can eat anything I want, sleep well and am altogether a new man mentally and physically.

"At the time I commenced to use this food I was nothing but a skeleton weighing 130 pounds but now I have got back my normal weight of nearly 200." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason.

Look in each package for a copy of the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

VENEZUELAN CASES.

Hague Tribunal Will Render Decision in February.

New York, Dec. 5.—Mr. Bowen United States minister to Venezuela, who today returned from The Hague where he appeared before The Hague tribunal as the representative of the United States and Venezuela in the Venezuelan claims, talked of the case freely. The arguments have now all been presented and the court will meet in February and render its decision. During the session of the tribunal, he said, the court heard every possible and impossible argument in favor of warlike methods and every humane and enlightened reason why creditors adopting peaceable methods should not be held to have forfeited their rights to equality of treatment with bellicose creditors. "If we were a little further advanced in civilization," he went on, "the distinguished arbitrators would have been asked to decide that if the preferential treatment should be given any creditor it should be those who refrained from resorting to war and used their influence to close their claims by diplomacy."

Mr. Bowen said the most ardent supporters of arbitration are now quite unanimous in asserting that this Venezuelan case, in which no fewer than twelve nations are interested has given The Hague tribunal the recognition and respect of the nations it needed as the supreme international court of justice and peace, and that the credit for securing for it this general recognition and respect was due to President Roosevelt, who advised at the beginning of the contention that the matter should be taken to The Hague.

Germany's Growth.

Berlin, Dec. 7.—The growth of the population of Germany in 1902, regarding which statistics have just been tabulated, was the greatest ever known, amounting to 902,512 or 15.61 per 1,000, compared with 15.09 in 1901, and 14.63, the average for the last ten years. The number of births during the decade increased only slightly, remaining just above 2,000,000 yearly. The gain therefore is due exclusively to the diminished death rate, which was 20.56 in 102, compared with 22.08 for the previous decade.

American Tin Ore.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 3.—What is said to be the first shipment of tin ore ever made from this country to Europe, is now at Gaffney, S. C., awaiting shipment to Liverpool via New York

The HOUSEHOLD And YOUNGFOLKS

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON.

Keynotes of Harmony

Wednesday.

Hate will not yield to hatred soon or late,
However patiently we hope and wait.
Love is the only conqueror of hate.

Thursday.

His face had that beauty that comes from a lifetime of love for men.

Friday.

Open the eyes of love and see a new heaven and a new earth.

Saturday.

All the revolution that mankind is yearning for is just this: to make men look in the direction of their work, to emphasize service and not wages, to ask How much good will it do? and not Does it pay?

Sunday

Let yourselves flow into the wind and melt into the sunshine, and feel for once the quiet power of God.

Monday.

Down with the tiger in each one of us! There is only one safe course to pursue; lock him up firmly and securely, and pay no heed to his subterranean roar.

Tuesday.

Become now at last conscious of the germ of soul that is within you, and stake your overweening energy on that!

ERNEST CROSBY.

To Reach the Highest Success Conserve Your Forces.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

One of Sir Walter Scott's maxims by which he governed his life was this: "Never be doing nothing." Without doubt he made this thought a ruling power in his life, for we learn that he was one of the most industrious of men. He must have been, or he could not have accomplished the literary feat of two volumes a month during his whole working career. And the Waverly novels were produced on an average of one a month, a wonderful example of brain-force, and energy brought into outward expression.

In thinking of such herculean labors, one sets them apart as something beyond the power of the generality of people, an exceptional exhibition of strength and ability little short of what we regard as miraculous. No doubt he did possess a brain force which was unusual, but the secret of the large amount of work which he accompished was not contained in that alone. It was rather that he knew how to use it in a way which brought the best results. In other words he conserved the force to the best advantage.

We hear a great deal about the conservation of force and that it cannot be lost, though it takes on new forms of expression. As a general law, it may appeal to us as being true, but we do not apply it to our own individual, human selves. Day by day people go on without realizing that each is a dynamo of force, which is to be used to forward in the best way the purposes of life. From that lack of realization comes the waste of energy which might have been employed in bringing to pass what we most desire, or in helping us to reach our ideals.

Let me make a more personal application of my meaning. At all times such waste is going on, but at this season of the year the expenditure of force without adequate results is tremendous. The holiday season is rapidly drawing near The Christmas spirit is abroad, the spirit of giving, beautiful when exercised in the right way. Too often, however, it has little or no true direction.

Go into one of the larger stores where holiday goods are displayed in all their seductiveness, and watch the comers and goers from some point of vantage. Then you will understand what I mean by waste of energy. One woman goes flying breathlessly by as if the earth would stop revolving unless she reaches a given place at a given minute. She knows what she wants and gets it, using up however, in the process ten times the force really needed. The reason is this; Her haste came largely from the fact that she had in thought gone again and again to that counter, while the body was moving thither, the latter being unable to respond so quickly as the mind to the will. It did at last, become infused with the desire to carry out the intention quickly, but the energy which it took was trebled, and needlessly. When that woman goes home after a few hours of such hurrying, she will find herself exhausted out of all proportion to her accomplishment. She has been wasting her forces.

This is one type of woman who, while seeming to obey Sir Walter Scott's excellent maxim, does not seize its true spirit. Another who does not know how to conserve her energies is the one wandering restlessly from counter to counter, her face puckered into wrinkles and her whole manner indicative of aimless thought, and there is nothing more wasteful than this. It is far more so than when hurry is the pushing motor, for there is absolutely nothing that comes out of the waste.

The great trouble is that so many fail to recognize thought as a real force to be conserved as carefully as physical energy. It must be directed with the same care as the movement of the body which is to give it expression. And when it is allowed to run riot, here, there, and everywhere, without any well considered purpose, it is as useless as piling fuel upon a fire to heat a house with the windows all open.

Men are quite as apt to waste force as women, though in a different way. Their thought is usually more concentrated, because business gives them in a degree that training, but they daily expend energy, that conserved, would give them far greater power in body and brain than they now possess. This is not an idle assertion, but a carefully proven fact, that cannot be further dwelt upon here.

The moral of all this is—conserve your forces, not only during these busy days preceding the holidays, but at all other seasons. The secret of all true achievement, next to having a high ideal, lies in not wasting the stored-up force of body, mind, or spirit, which all possess in a greater or less degree. To form a habit of making no false or useless movements; to think always to some purpose, requires effort, but if continued the result will well repay the making.

If this were not a world for work; if it were not plainly the law that whatever is worth having is within the reach of the persistent laborer, but demands a struggle to obtain it, this conservation of energy would not be so necessary. Somebody has said: "Work and self-respect are the two great factors for building character, and character is the motive force that rules the world." This does away with the old idea that only genius brings the great successes of life. Henry Van Dyke gave utterance to a great truth in his little poem. The Gospel of Labor, the last stanza of which runs in this wise:

This is the gospel of labor, ring it, ye bells of the kirk.
The Lord of Love came down from above to live with the men that work.
This is the rose that He planted, here in the thorn-cursed soil—
Heaven is blest with perfect rest, but the blessing of earth is toil.

I do not believe he means that the perfect rest is idleness, pure and simple, but it is "service" without the pain and struggle which enter into "toil" as we know it in the physical life, and yet which is "the blessing of earth." It is a real blessing, however, only when done in the right way.

Many problems enter into the finding of this right way, which cannot be discussed here, but the most important to us as individuals, is the one I have been talking about, the conserving of our forces. When we do this, duty in every relation in life becomes easier. Service to others is accomplished with less strain and weariness. Growth into higher conditions follows, because worry and anger, prejudice and hatred, and all intemperance of passion, must be banished in order to waste no energy. It is easy to see in this light, that work was intended to be a blessing, and not a curse, as it is sometimes looked upon, for into the spirit from which such qualities are excluded, Love must take their place, and Love sweetens every effort. And all this enters into the true understanding of what I have said about a thoughtless and careless dissipating of force in which we all indulge without any regard for its value, or any conception of what it may mean in relation to our future.

It is a habit which counts; the day-by-day little things that, repeated, shape the character either towards or away from our ideals. This is why I have called your attention to what may seem, at first thought, unimportant. And yet they are not so, for it is the trifles, as we name them, which make up life. Each one is to be thought of separately, given its due place and then receive its dismissal.

Let me leave with you in closing, these words of Edward Carpenter's:

"Have faith! For all things are possible! Yet at any one time or place only one thing is possible. And all things are good, yet at any one time or place can you extract the good only from that which is before you."

To extract this good at each moment demands the undiminished force that is the rightful possession of each individual.

The Cozy Corner

ANSWER TO "BACHELOR GIRL."

I would say to "Bachelor Girl," that good homes have been bought and paid for, upon much smaller salaries than she receives, and families supported at the same time. I know whereof I speak, for we are just finishing the payments on our home. It is a nice home, with ground enough to make us a living from when the income stops, and it has all been paid for in a few years.

If the Bachelor Girl would ask those teachers who pay her ten dollars per month for room rent, they could give her a pointer as to how to lighten her expense. If she would live in one room where she could take a light breakfast and supper, then take her dinners out, she could reduce her living expenses to $15.00 a month and live well; I know, for I have tried that, too.

How glad I would be to "follow the trail of the wild goose," as "Doctor" recommends, if I could rid myself of my rheumatism. I spent a winter in Southern California to rid myself of a catarrhal affection of the throat; the throat got well, but the rheumatism staid right with me. I felt the cold more, and wore more clothing than I did at home. However, that was one of the "exceptional" seasons which these sunny climes have.

"Ysleta," Ohio.

THE OPINION OF "A SINGLE WOMAN."

When I read that letter from "S. E. W." I did not know whether to pity or blame her most. The idea of allowing a man to get into such a selfish condition is something to be greatly deplored—not only for her sake, but for his, also. A wife ought to have more regard for her husband's soul than to allow him to put it in peril of the future punishment that will surely be meted out to such a miserably selfish wretch

S. E. W. should begin a reform at once, though it will be harder because she has so long indulged the man in having his own way, but it should be done for her sake—for the sake of the children and last—and I am tempted to say, "least"—for the sake of her husband. She cannot hope for the respect of her children or friends as long as she does not more respect herself.

She should procure for herself proper clothing; the law in every state in the Union holds that a husband is obliged to pay for all decent and suitable clothing for his wife; not simply "decent" clothing, but such as is suitable for her to wear in his station of life, and such as will allow her to associate with her neighbors without feeling disgraced by her clothes. So if he will not allow her the money to buy this clothing, a wife can get it on his credit and he has no recource but must pay the bills.

Having these garments, she should wear them to all places of amusement and social pleasure that her husband attends. He will not dare to slight or insult her "before folks," for such men hold their position by too small a thread to risk public opinion. If S. E. W. is quiet and ladylike in her manners, and tries to make herself agreeable, society will soon take up her cause and welcome her.

"But," says the frightened woman, "he will be so cross and ugly when we are at home if I do this." Well, what if he is; he is cross and ugly anyhow, and might as well have some excuse for it, and if you give him to understand that you are not to be frightened by such conduct on his part he will soon cease to act so foolishly.

Should he act too badly, let him get on alone for a week or two while you go a-visiting, and he will soon realize that you are as much needed in the home as he is, and will treat you accordingly.

I knew a woman once who left her husband for just such reasons as "S. E. W." has given and she did housework for a neighbor to support herself. In less than a week the man who had so brow-beaten her all his married life, came around begging her to come home, he "hadn't had a decent meal since she left." I am pleased to say that she did not leave her place until the month for which she was engaged was up, and then she went home on her own terms and kept him to them; the result was "they lived happily ever afterwards."

But the children! Ah! yes. A mother will suffer every indignity for their sakes, but it is not true kindness to them to let them see her put in the place of an ill-treated servant. So try it, "S. E. W.,—and all other abused women—and, for goodness sake, don't be afraid of your husbands, for a man who will brow-beat and abuse a woman is an arrant coward, every time.—"A Single Woman," Vermont.

ASKED AND ANSWERED.

A correspondent in Waller, O., asks the following question:

Will you tell us, who is Elizabeth Ayres? Is the name a nom de plume? and anything else you are at liberty to impart about the writer of the lovely short stories printed in The Blade?

Elizabeth Ayres is the pen name by which the writer desires to be known to her friendly readers in The Blade. It may not detract from the interest of her stories, however, to learn that she is a niece of the editor of the Household.

Another correspondent wishes to know whether Miss Bouton's book, Life's Gateways, is still on sale. It is, and in cloth binding for 75 cents until after Christmas. Send to the author, Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O.

Will some one tell me who is meant by "The Poet of Poets," "The Pathfinder," "The Merry Monarch" and "The Poet of the Dawn?"—Harry Montrose.

How can I remove grease spots from writing paper, and from books without injuring the paper?—School Girl.

What can I give to a gentleman friend for Christmas? I have been acquainted with him about a year and though we are not engaged yet, it is quite down on the books that we may be before the end of the year. This being the case, could I with propriety, give him a valuable present? Please answer at once and oblige.—"Mamie S.," Idaho.

"Mamie" had better take the advice concerning the cooking of a hare—"first catch your hare," for in spite of the possibility that she may be "engaged" to the man before the year is out, there remains also the possibility that she may not. Wait until you are married to him, "Mamie," and then you can spend all your spare change in presents for him.

What should a person do if she wishes to send a story to any paper—say the Toledo Blade—and what is usually paid for short stories?—Ella Briggs, Detroit, Mich.

She should first write the story just as well and carefully as she knows how; next she should send it, neither rolled nor folded, to the editor of the paper, enclosing stamps if she wishes it returned in case it is not accepted. Then she should wait patiently until she hears from it, remembering that hers is but one of the many the editor has to examine each week. If it is accepted she will receive a check for what it is worth to the paper.

These stories are paid for according to length, merit and adaptation to the paped to which they are sent. If her story is declined, she is not to be discouraged, but read it carefully over and make such corrections and improvements as she will, doubtless, find advisable, then send it to some other paper, which may find it to be just what it needs. After this, she must do as the directions in knitting say—"repeat from the star"—until she finds a publisher who can use her work.

"As a man is known by his company, so a man's company may be known by his manner of expressing himself."—Swift.

ONE OF THE POPULAR NOVEL WRITERS.

MRS. MARGARET DELAND.
Author of Old Chester Tales Dr. Lavendar's People, Etc.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS.

For this morning we have a bright, chatty letter from one who is a very general favorite:

"I enjoyed reading of the reunion very much, and hope I shall be able to attend the next one, for it is pleasant to meet our friends in that way.

"Michigan Mollie," as Illinois is my native state, you will readily guess why I chose my M. G. R. name, "Omega," I am glad some one is glad to see me. I do believe platonic friendship is possible. To persons of similar tastes, such a friendship would not only be a pleasure, but a real benefit as well. To a certain extent, the face is an index to character, but many persons are able to assume an expression entirely foreign to their natures so it is sometimes difficult to read such faces.

The greatest pleasure I have had for a long time was from a visit I enjoyed with one of the M. G. R. girls this last summer. "Buckeye Schoolma'am" and I have long been correspondents, but had never met until a few weeks ago, and if all the M. G. R. girls are as nice as she, I wish I could have a visit from every one of them.

"Olive Branch," we cannot have too many friends in this world, and I will gladly extend my list of "best friends," to include you. "Flora" the "old maids and bachelors" of my acquaintance do not need your sympathy, as they are the happiest and freest people I know. Your sympathy should be given to some of the unhappy, married folks we hear of.

"Leal," there is a whole world ful' of fresh air here and also all kinds of fruits, both of which I will gladly share with you if you will visit me. "Unleet," come often; I look every week for a letter from you. I gladly welcome "Badger," "Muggins" and all the other members.

"Mae," I have so many "favorite" quotations that it is hard to select one to send. Perhaps this, from Longfellow,, will do:

Make the house where God may dwell
Both the unseen and the seen;
"Let us do our work, as well
Beautiful, entire and clean.

Build today, then strong and sure,
With a firm and ample base,
And ascending and secure,
Shall tomorrow find its place."

ILLINOIS.

Dear M. G. R.'s, although the cold November rain is beating pitilessly down this morning, I will don mackintosh and rubbers and hie me away over the hill and vale to visit in the warm, cozy M. G. R. and visit awhile with the members of this little (?) circle of friends.

"I need not waste your time, nor mine, in telling you I am sorry I stayed away so long, for Miss Prudence knows full well that none of her girls and boys would stay away if they could help it. It has been the old, old story—I am kept so busy trying to make a living that I find very little time for pleasure. Yes, I know we should not look on our work as not a pleasure; this life is short, and we travel the road but once, and therefore should gather all the pleasure and beauty as we pass along, but—all the same, it seems a little hard sometimes.

"Leal," how I should like to welcome you to "The Whippoorwill's Nest," my home. Come in the good old summer time, and you will be treated to some of the finest music in the world. We have a concert just at dawn every morning, given by the wood robin and the meadow lark, while the last thing you would hear as you entered the land of dreams, would be the sweet, plaintive notes of the whip-poor-will, and the drowsy hum of the katy-did.

If "Olive Branch" would come I would give her a warm welcome and show her some of the beauties of nature found on the mountain top.

But why mention names? I have a warm place in my heart for every one of the M. G. R. sisters—and brothers; I have words of congratulation and joy for the happy ones and the tenderest sympathy for all those who are sorrowful.

I think the "Little Girl" must be a neighbor of mine, and I consider her very fortunate in having seen a M. G. R. badge besides her own. I will vote for a number of short stories instead of one serial.

Glancing over this letter I think it will remind you of the young man who rose to address a literary society—"Honorable judges," he began—"ladies and gentlemen, fellow citizens and others, I guess I have nothing to say to you"—whereat he sat down amidst the applause of the audience.—"Dimple," Penn.

For the benefit of several who seem not to have seen the list of authors for our winter story, it is here given:

"Olive Branch," "Westerner," "Oregon Bach," "Quien Saba," "Unicetti" and "Omega." This story will be given monthly by the above named M. G. R.'s in the order in which the names are mentioned, beginning in February.

Another long absent friend comes this morning and announces a change of name—no, not that she has changed it "for better or worse," as many of our girls have done, but, for some reason, she who was our "Lillie," will hereafter be known to us as "Elijah Hospice";

After a long absence I come again; my absence has not been caused by any lack of interest in the M. G. R., for I have read the letters with interest, but I have been away from home much of the time. Since my last visit to you I have changed my home from Ohio to Illinois and like my new surroundings very much. I have just returned from a trip to New York with Zion's Restoration Host, where I had a pleasant visit in connection with my work, and now that I am settled where I can have my Blade regularly, I would like my name to be placed on the new roll call.

Like "Sunflower Kid" and "Daisy," I think there are other and more sensible subjects than that taken up in the serial story of last year. Yes, "Omega," I believe that character is strongly written on one's face, and we can soon learn to tell what that character is, by closely observing the face when the person under consideration is perfectly natural—not on dress parade, so to speak.—"Elijah Hospice," Ill.

OUR BADGES.

They are very pretty and significant, as those who have them know. The opportunity of getting one for fifteen cents ought not to be neglected, especially in view of the fact that next summer at the St. Louis Exposition many Merry-Go-Round members will be there and should to have some means of recognition.

Tongue-Twisters.

Try repeating these sentences over as fast as you can and as many times as you can. See how your tongue gets twisted and how it makes you laugh:

I'm copper bottoming it, mam.
Six thick thistle sticks.
Flesh of freshly fried flying fish.
Two toads totally tired tried to trot to Tedbury.
Give Grimes Jim's great gilt gig-whip.
Strict strong Stephen Stringer snared slickly six sickly silky snakes.
She stood at the door of Mrs. Smith's fish-sauce shop welcoming him in.
Swan swam over the sea; swim, swan, swim! Swan swam back again. Well swum swan!
Susan shineth shoes and socks; socks and shoes shine Susan. She ceaseth shining shoes and socks, for socks and shoes shock Susan.

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work—Hawkeye.
Solutions—U No Hoo.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was one of the most distinguished experimental philosophers of the nineteenth century, born at Salford, England, December 24, 1815; died at Sale, October 11, 1889. At an early age he showed, by constructing for himself electrical machines and other philosophical instruments, the bent of his genius. His earliest notable experiments were made with reference to electro-magnetic engines; from which he passed to quantitative determinations regarding heat and the transformation of various forms of energy. He was justly entitled to be considered as the experimental founder of the modern theory of conservation of energy, the grandest generalization ever made in physical science. (See "Force" in Chamber's Encyclopedia.)

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Four boys, A, B, C and D, purchase oranges at different values per orange. The product of the value of A's, by B's and C's, is 2 and 2-9; and of A's by B's and D's, is 2 and 2-3; and of A's by C's and D's is 3 and 1-3; and of B's by C's and D's is 4 and 4-9. What is the least number each may purchase, their investments being equal?

3.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

X O O O O O X
X O O O O O X
X O O O O O X
X O O O O O X
X O O O O O X
X O O O O O X
X O O O O O X

1.—A noted German novelist.
2.—4th branch of the animal kinguom.
3.—The last Moorish king of Grenada.
4.—One who rescued King David by slaying a giant.
5.—A plant used in flavoring salads.
6.—An acute sound.
7.—(Latin) Signifies "not for self."

My primals name one of the greatest of modern philosophers; my finals name the creator of experimental science.

4.—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 16 letters. My 10, 6, 7, 12, 2, 9, 8, 14 is a social game. My 16, 11, 15, 3, 4, 13 is a pannier. My first (phon.) the name of an eminent statesman. My whole is the name of the author of the poem entitled "Too Deep for That."

5.—QUERY.

What Roman consul, when the king of Epirus offered him mere gold than Rome ever possessed if he would enter his service, replied: "Poverty with a good name is better than wealth"?

6.—QUOTATION.

Who said: "Testimony is like an arrow shot from a long bow; the force of it depends on the strength of the hand that draws it. Argument is like an arrow shot from a cross-bow, which has equal force, though shot by a child."

Tenth set in Competition.

Answers to Puzzles of Nov. 26.

1.—Sir Edwin Sandys.
2.—"Why don't you speak for yourself, John?"
3.—Spinning-wheel.
4.—First, turkey; second, guests.
5.—Plymouth is a town in Massachusetts, on Plymouth Bay, 37 miles southeast of Boston. It is famous in the history of New England as the landing place of the Pilgrim Fathers from the Mayflower, December 11, 1620. Plymouth Rock is a granite boulder at the water's edge on which they landed. In Pilgrim's Hall in a museum are preserved many relics of the first settlement of the country, among which are Governor Carver's chair and the sword of Miles Standish.
6.—James of Scotland who acceded to the British throne in 1604 said of the Puritans: "I will make them conform, or I will harrie them out of the land."

Chat.

Hawkeye had the distinction of being the only lady present in the 'Cademy this morning. The gentlemen present were Perry Cross, Geo. W. Haselton, W. L. Hunter, R. Davis and Robert Roland.

Perry Cross, your personal request was answered as soon as received.

Geo. W. Haselton, the problem that bothered you was solved in Chat of November 19.

W. L. Hunter, you were all right in your supposition.

R. Davis, occasional repetition is found everywhere, even in history and the Wonder Column.

Robert Roland, remember the trouble "Helens" have caused hitherto.

Hawkeye, no apologies are needed. The Schoolmistress knows you are one of her most faithful pupils, and makes due allowances for your absence.

U No Hoo stood highest both in new work and solutions this month, but as this was counted too much honor to be bestowed on any one pupil, the Banner for new work was accorded to Hawkeye, who stood next best.

THE LIFE OF GLADSTONE

JOHN MORLEY

Author of The Life of Gladstone.

The most important event in the literary world so far this season, is the Morley Gladstone, a three-volume biography by John Morley, English statesman, historian, and man of letters—of Mr. Gladstone, for sixty years a gigantic power in England's affairs of state.

As in the case of all great men who guide the destinies of a nation, Gladstone was lauded to the heights or derided to the depths through the many years of his career. It was unavoidable that both his opinions and his acts were subject to many changes during that period, and the events which have been marshalled, give a clear insight into the circumstances which influenced the growth and training of Mr. Gladstone's intellectual powers and character. The narrative is corroborated by a mass of documents, the majority of which are the self-revealing letters and journals written by the statesman.

Naturally, where the subject of the story was one of the controllers and makers of modern politics, the work includes much political history as well as biography. Mr. Morley's blending of Gladstone's private with his public life, is skilfully done, and shows that Gladstone was swayed by his religious and moral principles as completely in his outside endeavors as he was in his private obligations. He thought of the church as the soul of state; his conscience was his imperious ruler.

The record of a man, who for more than half a century lived in the glare of publicity, is unavoidably a record which has been an open book to the world, but in the long passage of time, much has been forgotten which is now assembled in its proper sequence and permits a comprehensive understanding of an extraordinary career and its achievements. It is not a "one man's" history that has been written, but it is also the history of men contemporaneous with Gladstone in the making of governmental institutions and the wielding and welding of state affairs. Gladstone is always the prominent and the dominant figure, but woven indissolubly with Gladstone, is the story of Modern England.

The volumes are a revelation of Gladstone the statesman, holding an imposing place in many national transactions, and of Gladstone the son, husband, father, friend and churchman, always actuated in every capacity by the tenderest and highest of motives.

In the exalting of his virtues, however, Mr. Morley has not forgotten to mention Gladstone's faults, or perhaps the better word is "errors." The chapter concerning his attitude during the civil war, is especially interesting. "Of this immense conflict, Mr. Gladstone, like most of the leading statesmen of the time, and like the majority of his countrymen, failed to take the true measure." He left on record in a fragmentary note of late date, his own estimate of his mistake.

I have yet to record, he writes (July 1896), an undoubted error, the most singular and palpable, I may add the least excusable of them all, especially since it was committed so late as in the year 1862, when I had outlived half a century. In the autumn of that year, in a speech delivered after a public dinner at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, I declared in the heat of the American struggle that Jefferson Davis had made a nation that is to say, that the division of the American Republic by the establishment of a southern or secession state was an accomplished fact. Strange to say, this declaration, most unwarrantable to be made by a minister of the crown, with no authority other than his own, was not due to any feeling of partisanship for the south or hostility to the north. I weakly supposed that the time had come when respectful suggestions of this kind, founded on the necessity of the case, were required by a spirit of that friendship which, in so many contingencies of life, has to offer sound recommendations with a knowledge that they will not be popular. Not only was this a misjudgment of the case, but even if it had been otherwise, I was not the person to make the declaration.

Each of the chapters is preluded with a passage taken from the utterances of Gladstone, or from those of other statesmen and sages. And these passages have an importance other than embellishment, as they are ever in harmony and explanatory of the chapters they precede. These are from Gladstone:

Be inspired with the belief that life is a great and noble calling; not a vain and grovelling thing that we are to shuffle through as we can, but an elevated and lofty destiny.

Politics are like a labyrinth from the inner intricacies of which it is even more difficult to find the way of escape than it was to find the way into them.

Mr. Morley was a younger contemporary of Mr. Gladstone, but he has written of him with a sympathy and knowledge and with a grace of diction and dignity of style that make of his work a fitting memorial to a man of noble character and remarkable accomplishments.

The volumes are illustrated with several Gladstone portraits and are published by the Macmillans.

ALMOST BEYOND ENDURANCE.

I ain't a-goin' to cry no more, no more!
I'm got ear-ache, an' Ma can't make
It quit a-tall;
An Carlo bite my rubber-ball
An' puncture it, an' Sis she take
An' poke my knife down through the stable floor

'TAINT GOING TO CRY NO MORE

An' loozed it—blame it all!
But I ain't goin' to cry no more, no more!
An' Aunt Mame wrote she's coming an' she can't—
Folks is come there—an' I don't care
She is my Aunt!
An my eyes stings; an' I'm
Ist coughin' all the time.
An' hurts me so, an' where my side's so sore
Grampa felt where, an' he
Says "Mayby it's pleurasy."
But I ain't goin' to cry no more, no more!

An' I clumbed up an' nen falled off the fence,
An' Herbert he ist laugh at me!
An' my fi'cents
It sticked in my tin bank, an' I ist tore
Put'-nigh my thumbnail off, a-tryin' to git
It out—nen smash it!—An' it's in there yit!
But I ain't goin' to cry no more, no more!

Oo! 'Im so wickud!—An' my breath's so hot—
Ist like I run an' don't res' none
But ist run on when I ought to not;
Yes, an' my chin
An' lips 's all warpy, an' teeth's so fast,
An' 's a place in my throat I can't swaller past—
An' they all hurt so!—
An' oh, my-oh!
I'm startin' ag'in—
I'm a-startin' ag'in, but I won't, fer shore!—
I ist ain't goin' to cry no more, no more!

From James Whitcomb Riley's His Pa's Romance. The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

BOB'S "PEACH PLUCK."

(Concluded.)

When the man returned he opened his eyes at the repast which the child had laid out for him.

"I'm sorry it's only the kitchen cloth, but it's perfectly clean," she assured him, with a nervous little laugh, as she tried to carry a chair for him. He took it from her with a muttered "Thank you, let me do it," and Bob sat in a chair opposite and watched his every movement intently. He was a little uneasy at first, but he evidently needed the food and ate heartily.

Bob's eyes brightened as she saw him unfold his napkin with a little shake and lay it across his knee, and move his knife, fork and glass of milk a little to one side and back again. Slice after slice of cold beef and ham disappeared, and when he cut the raw tomato in slices in the small plate and covered them thickly with the rich mayonnaise dressing Nell had made that morning, she covered her mouth again and indulged in silent laughter.

When the last bit of apple pie vanished, the man got up and looked about.

"Thank you, little one! Goodby," he said.

"No, you musn't go yet," answered the child. 'Come to mother."

He moved restlessly and hook his head. "Mothers don't want to see tramps or peach plucks," he said.

The child look at him gravely. "You are my brother, Jim," she said.

The man snatched his cap from a chair, and turned, but she was too quick for him.

"If you go I'll scream, and that will frighten mother, and she's sick. Oh, aren't you my brother Jim?"

"What makes you think so?" he asked unsteadily. Bob laughed happily.

"'Cause you never asked me where the holder was, and you fixed the fire just like Nell does and you put the kettle in the basin without being told, and you knew where the coal was. I was almost sure you were Jim, for we're always expecting you, you know. And then you didn't go to the pump to wash, you went to the little room where Jim made the water run before I was born. But I was certain sure when you shook your napkin and put the dressing on the tomatoes, because mother said Jim shook it like that, and he loved them that way, and father told Nell to keep lots of things in the pantry, 'cause Jim would be hungry when he came in; he always was. And I watched, and you at every little teeny bit."

The man hid his face in his arms against the door, but Bob pulled him impatiently.

"Come to mother," she coaxed.

Together they went through the long hall, and across the sitting-room to the shady porch, where Nell was arranging her mother's pillows.

"Mother!" called the eager little voice, "I've brought Jim!" And Bob danced wildly around the group, where Jim and Nell and mother were all together on the sofa.

Later on she sat happily on the lap of her peach pluck, eating a huge slice of bread and rich dark peach butter, and listening as Jim told of his running away because he wanted to see the world how he had wandered and worked and tramped for ten whole years, until the bitter homesickness had driven him back again. He had not meant any one to see him, for he was ashamed, but thought some one else had bought the farm when he saw the child there. He had not known it was his own little sister whom he had seen and whose quickness had kept him from wandering away again.

"I thought it was Jim," she chuckled radiantly, "but I just knew for sure when I gave him the things to eat, and he ate them all."—Mary Gibson, in New York Tribune.

ONE GOOD SNOWIFROLIC—AND THEN OFF WE GO TO OUR WINTER QUARTERS
—From Little Folks.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Business-Like Document Sent to Congress.

Washington, Dec. 7.—President Roosevelt's message was transmitted to Congress today. It opens with the assertion that "the country is to be congratulated on the amount of substantial achievement which has marked the past year both as regards our foreign and as regards our domestic policy," and then proceeds:

With a nation, as with a man, the most important things are those of the household, and therefore before the country is especially to be congratulated on what has been accomplished in the direction of providing for the exercise of supervision over the great corporations and combinations of corporations engaged in interstate commerce. This congress has created the department of commerce and labor, including the bureau of corporations, with, for the first time, authority to secure proper publicity of such proceedings of these great corporations as the public has the right to know. It has provided for the expediting of suits for the enforcement of the federal anti-trust law, and by such law it has secured equal treatment to all producers in the transportation of their goods, thus taking a long stride forward in making effective the work of the interstate commerce commission.

Functions of New Department.

The purpose of the bureau of corporations is not to embarrass or assail legitimate business, but to aid in bringing about a better industrial condition—a condition under which there shall be obedience to law and recognition of public obligation by all corporations, great or small. The department of commerce and labor will be not only the clearing house for information regarding the business transactions of the nation but the executive arm of the government to aid in strengthening our domestic and foreign markets, in perfecting our transportation facilities, in building up our merchant marine, in preventing the entrance of undesirable immigrants, in improving commercial and industrial conditions, and in bringing together on common ground these necessary partners in industrial progress—capital and labor.

In enacting the laws above enumerated, the congress proceeded on sane and conservative lines. Nothing revolutionary was attempted, but a common-sense and successful effort was made in the direction of seeing that corporations are so handled as to subserve the public good. Publicity can do no harm to the honest corporation. The only corporation that has cause to dread it is the corporation which shrinks from the light.

Capital and Labor.

The consistent policy of the national government, so far as it has the power, is to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employe; it is to refuse to weaken individual initiative or to hamper or cramp the industrial development of the country. We recognize that this is an era of federation and combination, in which great capitalistic corporations and individuals have become factors of tremendous importance in all industrial centers. Whenever either corporation, labor union or individual disregards the law or acts in a spirit of arbitrary and tyrannous oppression within the rights of others, whether corporations or individuals, then, where the federal government has jurisdiction, it will see to it that the misconduct is stopped, paying not the slightest heed to the position or power of the corporation, labor union or the individual, but only to one vital fact—that is, the question whether or not the conduct of the individual or aggregate of individuals is in accordance with the law of the land.

Government Expenditures.

From all sources, exclusive of the postal service, the receipts of the government for the last fiscal year aggregated $560,-089,674. Expenditures for the same period were $506,099,007, the surplus for the fiscal year being $54,297,667. The indications are that the surplus for the present fiscal year will be very small, if indeed there be any surplus. From July to November the receipts from customs were, approximately, nine million dollars less than the receipts from the same source in a corresponding portion of last year. Should this decrease continue at the same ratio the fiscal year, the surplus would be reduced by, approximately, thirty million dollars, should the revenue from customs suffer much further decrease during the fiscal year, the surplus would vanish. A large surplus is certainly undesirable.

The integrity of our currency is beyond question, and under present conditions it would be unwise and unnecessary to attempt a reconstruction of our entire monetary system. The same liberty should be granted the secretary of the treasury to deposit customs receipts as is granted him in the deposit of receipts from other sources. In my message of December 2, 1902, I called attention to certain needs of the financial situation, and I again ask the consideration of the congress for those questions.

Merchant Marine.

A majority of our people desire that steps be taken in the interests of American shipping so that we may once more resume our former position in the ocean carrying trade. But hitherto the differences of opinion as to the proper method of reaching this end have been so wide that it has proved impossible to secure the adoption of any particular scheme. Having in view these facts, I recommend that the congress direct the secretary of the navy, the postmaster general, and the secretary of commerce and labor, associated with such a representation from the senate and house of representatives as the congress in its wisdom may designate, to serve as a commission for the purpose of investigating and reporting to the congress at its next session what legislation is desirable or necessary for the development of the American merchant marine and American commerce, and incidentally of a national ocean mail service or adequate auxiliary naval cruisers and naval reserves.

We can not have too much immigration of the right kind, and we should have none at all of the wrong kind. The need is to devise some system by which undesirable immigrants shall be kept out entirely while desirable immigrants are properly distributed throughout the country. At present some districts which need immigrants have none; and in others, where the population is already congested, immigrants come in such numbers as to depress the conditions of life for those already there.

Naturalization Frauds.

The special investigation of the subject of naturalization under the direction of the attorney general, and the consequent prosecutions, reveal a condition of affairs calling for the immediate attention of the congress. Forgeries and perjuries of shameless and flagrant character have been perpetrated not only in the dense centers of population, but throughout the country; and it is established beyond doubt that very many so-called citizens of the United States have no title what-ever to that right, and are asserting and enjoying the benefits of a name through the grossest frauds. The body politic can not be sound and healthy if many of its constituent members claim their standing through the prostitution of the high right and calling of citizenship. It should mean something to become a citizen of the United States; and in the process no loophole whatever should be left open to fraud.

To Enforce Trust Laws.

In my last annual message, in connection with the subject of the due regulation of combinations of capital which are or may become injurious to the public, I recommended a special appropriation for the better enforcement of the anti-trust law as it now stands, to be expended under the direction of the attorney-general. Accordingly (by the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act of February 25, 1903, 32 stat., 854, 909), the congress appropriated, for the purpose of enforcing the various federal trust and interstate commerce laws, the sum of $500,000. I now recommend, as a matter of the utmost importance and urgency, the extension of the purposes of this appropriation, so that it may be available, under the direction of the attorney-general, and until used, for the due enforcement of the laws of the United States in general and especially of the civil and criminal laws relating to public lands and the laws relating to postal crimes and offenses and the subject of naturalization. Recent investigations have shown a deplorable state of affairs in these three matters of vital concern. By various frauds and by forgeries and perjuries, thousands of acres of the public domain, embracing lands of different character and extending through various sections of the country, have been dishonestly acquired.

The Postal Frauds.

By similar means—that is, through frauds, forgeries and perjuries, and by shameless briberies—the laws relating to the proper conduct of the public service in general and to the due administration of the postoffice department have been notoriously violated, and many indictments have been found, and the consequent prosecutions are in course of hearing or one or two thereof. For the reasons thus indicated, and so that the government may be prepared to enforce promptly and with the greatest effect the due penalties for such violations of law, and to this end may be furnished with sufficient instrumentalities and competent legal assistance for the investigations and trials which will be necessary at many different points of the country, I urge upon the congress the necessity of making the said appropriation available for immediate use for all such purposes.

To Extradite Bribers.

Steps have been taken by the state department looking to the making of bribery an extradition offense with foreign powers. The need of more effective treaties covering this crime is manifest. The exposures and prosecutions of official corruption in St. Louis, Mo., and other cities and states have resulted in a number of gifts and takers of bribes becoming fugitives in foreign lands. Bribery has not been included in extradition treatries heretofore, as the necessity for it has not risen. While there may have been as much official corruption in former years, there has been more developed and brought to light in the immediate past than in the preceding century of our country's history. It should be the policy of the United States to leave no place on earth where a corrupt man fleeing from this country can rest in peace. Government of the people, by the people, for the people will perish from the face of the earth if bribery is tolerated. The givers and takers of bribes stand on an evil preeminence of infamy. The exposure and punishment of public corruption is an honor to a nation, not a disgrace. The shame lies in the toleration.

Alaskan Boundary Decision.

For several years past the rapid development of Alaska and the establishment of growing American interests in regions theretofore unsurveyed and imperfectly known brought into prominence the urgent necessity of a practical demarcation of the boundaries between the jurisdictions of the United States and Great Britain.

After unavailing attempts to reach an understanding through a joint high commission, followed by prolonged negotiations, conducted in an amicable spirit, a convention between the United States and Great Britain was signed, January 24, 1903, providing for an examination of the subject by a mixed tribunal of six members. On the 20th of October a majority of the tribunal reached and signed an agreement on all the questions submitted by the terms of the convention. By this award the right of the United States to the control of a continuous strip of border of the mainland shore, skirting all the tide-water inlets and sinuosities of the coast, is confirmed.

The result is satisfactory in every way. To make it effective as regards the others it only remains for the two governments to appoint, each on its own behalf, one or more scientific experts, who, at a convenient speed, proceed together to lay down the boundary line in accordance with the decision of the majority of the tribunal. I recommend that the congress make adequate provision for the appointment, compensation and expense of the members to serve on this joint boundary commission on the part of the United States.

The Venezuela Arbitration.

It will be remembered that during the second session of the last congress Great Britain, Germany and Italy formed an alliance for the purpose of leading to the ports of Venezuela and using such other means of pressure as would secure a settlement of claims due, as they alleged, to certain of their subjects. Their employment of force for the collection of these claims was terminated by an agreement brought about through the offices of the diplomatic representatives of the United States at Caracas and the government at Washington, thereby ending a situation which was bound to cause increasing friction, and which jeopardized the peace of the continent.

A demand was made by the so-called blockading powers that the sums ascertained to be due to their citizens by such mixed commissions should be accorded payment in full before anything was paid upon the claims of any of the so-called peace powers. Venezuela, on the other hand, insisted that all her creditors should be paid upon a basis of exact equality. During the efforts to adjust this dispute it was suggested by the powers in interest that it should be referred to me for decision, but I was clearly of the opinion that a far wiser course would be to submit the question to the permanent court of arbitration at The Hague. It seemd to me to offer an admirable opportunity to advance the practice of the peaceful settlement of disputes between nations and to secure for The Hague tribunal a memorable increase of its practical importance. The nations now appearing there will find it far easier to appear there a second time, while no nation can imagine that its pride will be lessened by following the example now presented. This triumph of the principle of international arbitration is a subject of warm congratulation and a cause for happy augury for the peace of the world.

Turkey Receives a Lesson.

Last year the Interparliamentary Union for International Arbitration met at Vienna, 600 members of the different legislatures of civilized countries attending. It was provided that the next meeting should be in 1904 at St. Louis, subject to our congress extending an invitation. The Hague tribunal, this Interparliamentary Union is one of the forces tending towards peace among the nations of the earth, and it is entitled to our support. I trust the invitation can be extended.

Early in July, having received intelligence, which happily turned out to be erroneous, of the assassination of our vice-consul at Beirut, I dispatched a small squadron to that port for such service as might be found necessary on arrival. Although the attempt on the life of our vice-consul had not been successful, yet the outrage was symptomatic of a state of excitement and disorder which demanded immediate attention. The arrival of the vessels had the happiest result. A feeling of security at once took the place of the former alarm and disquiet; our officers were cordially welcomed by the consular body and the leading merchants, and ordinary business resumed its activity. The government of the sultan gave a considerate hearing to the representations of our minister; the official who was regarded as responsible for the disturbed conditions of affairs was removed. Our relations with the Turkish government remain friendly; our claims founded on inequitable treatment of some of our schools and missions appear to be in process of amicable adjustment.

New Treaty With China.

The signing of a new commercial treaty with China, which took place at Shanghai on the 8th of October, is a cause for satisfaction. This act, the result of long discussion and negotiation, places our commercial relations with the great Oriental Empire on a more satisfactory footing than they have ever heretofore enjoyed.

Larger facilities are to be given to our citizens who desire to carry on mining enterprises in China. We have secured for our missionaries a valuable privilege, the recognition of their right to rent and lease in perpetuity such property as their religious societies may need in all parts of the empire. And what was an indispensable condition for the advance and development of our commerce in Manchuria, China, by treaty with us, has opened to foreign commerce the cities of Mukden, the capital of the province of Manchuria, and Antung, an important port on the Yalu river, on the road to Corea.

I call your attention to the reduced cost in maintaining the consular service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903. For the year under consideration the excess of expenditures over receipts on account of the consular service amounted to $26,-125.12, as against $96,972.50 for the year ending June 30, 1902, and $147,040.16 for the year ending June 30, 1901. This is the best showing in this respect for the consular service for the past fourteen years, and the reduction in the cost of the service to the government has been made in spite of the fact that the expenditures for the year in question were more than $20,-000 greater than for the previous year.

Rural Free Delivery.

The rural free-delivery service has been steadily extended. The attention of the congress is asked to the question of the compensation of the letter carriers and clerks engaged in the postal service, especially on the new rural free-delivery routes. More routes have been established since the first of July last than in any like period in the department's history. While a due regard to economy must be kept in mind in the establishment of new routes, yet the extension of the rural free-delivery system must be continued, for reasons of sound public policy.

I trust that the congress will continue to favor in all proper ways the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. This exposition commemorates the Louisiana purchase, which was the first great step in the expansion which made us a continental nation. The expedition of Lewis and Clark across the continent followed thereon, and marked the beginning of the process of exploration and colonization which thrust our national boundaries to the Pacific.

Development of Alaska.

I call your special attention to the territory of Alaska. The country is developing rapidly, and it has an assured future. The mineral wealth is great and has as yet barely been tapped. Its fisheries, if wisely handled and kept under national control, will be a business as permanent as any other, and of the utmost importance to the people. The forests if properly guarded will form another great source of wealth. Portions are fit for settlement for farming and stock raising, although the methods must be adapted to the peculiar conditions of the country. Alaska is situated in the far north; but so are Norway and Sweden and Finland; and Alaska can grow populous and play its part in the new world just as those nations have prospered and played their parts in the old world.

I recommend that an appropriation be made for building lighthouses in Hawaii, and taking possession of those already built.

Progress in Philippines.

Of our insular possessions the Philippines and Porto Rico, it is gratifying to say that their steady progress has been such as to make it unnecessary to spend much time in discussing them. Yet the congress should ever keep in mind that a peculiar obligation rests upon us to further in every way the welfare of these communities. The Philippines should be knit close to us by tariff arrangements. No one people ever benefited another people more than we have benefited the Philippines by taking possession of the islands.

The Government Domain.

The cash receipts of the general land office for the last fiscal year were $11,024,-743.65, an increase of $4,762,816.47 over the preceding year. Of this sum, approximately, $8,461,493 will go to the credit of the fund for the reclamation of arid land, making a total of this fund, up to the 30th of June, 1903, approximately, $16,191,836.

A gratifying disposition has been evinced by those having unlawful inclosures of public land to remove their fences. Nearly two million acres so inclosed have been thrown open on demand. In but comparatively few cases has it been necessary to go into court to accomplish this purpose. This work will be vigorously prosecuted until all unlawful inclosures have been removed.

Experience has shown that in the western states, and, indeed, as well as in the rest of the country, there is widespread conviction that certain of the public land laws and the resulting administrative practice no longer meet the present needs. The work of reclamation of the arid lands of the west is progressing steadily and satisfactorily under the terms of the law setting aside the proceeds from the disposal of public lands. The corps of engineers known as the reclamation service, which is conducting the surveys and examinations, has been thoroughly organized, especial pains being taken to secure under the civil service rules, a body of skilled, experienced, and efficient men.

The Indian agents should not be dependent for their appointment or tenure of office upon considerations of partisan politics; the practice of appointing, when possible, post officers or bonded superintendents to the vacancies that occur is working well. Attention is invited to the widespread illiteracy due to lack of public schools in the Indian Territory. Prompt heed should be paid to the need of education for the children in this territory.

Safety Appliance Law.

In my last annual message the attention of the congress was called to the necessity of enlarging the safety-appliance law, and it is gratifying to note that this law has been amended in important respects. With the increasing railway mileage of the country, the greater number of men employed, and the use of larger and more powerful equipment, the urgency for renewed effort to prevent the loss of life and limb upon the railroads of the country, particularly to employees, is apparent. For the inspection of water craft and the life-saving service upon the water the congress has built up an elaborate body and effective legislation and a thorough method of inspection and is annually spending large sums of money. It is encouraging to observe that the congress is alive to the interests of those who are employed upon our wonderful arteries of commerce—the railroads—who so safely transport millions of passengers and billions of tons of freight. The federal inspection of safety appliances, for which the congress is now making appropriations, is a service analogous to that which the government has upheld for generations in regard to vessels, and it is to be hoped will prove of great practical benefit, both to railroad employees and the traveling public. As the greater part of commerce is interstate and exclusively under the control of the congress the needed safety and uniformity must be secured by national legislation.

No other class of our citizens deserves so well of the nation as those to whom the nation owes its very being, the veterans of the civil war. Special attention is asked to the excellent work of the pension bureau in adjudicating and disposing of pension claims. During the fiscal year ending July 1, 1903, the bureau settled 251,382 claims, an average of 825 claims for each working day of the year. The number of settlements since July 1, 1903, is in excess of last year's average, approaching 1,000 claims for each working day, and it is believed that the work of the bureau will be current at the close of the present fiscal year.

Extension of Civil Service Rules.

During the year ended June 30 last, 25,-668 persons were appointed through competitive examinations under the civil-service rules. This was 6,672 more than during the preceding year, and 40 per cent of those who passed the examinations. This abnormal growth was largely occasioned by the extension of classification to the rural free-delivery service and the appointment last year of over 3,000 rural carriers. A revision of the civil service rules took effect on April 15 last, which has greatly improved their operation. The completion of the reform of the civil service is recognized by good citizens everywhere as a matter of the highest public importance, and the success of the merit system largely depends upon the effectiveness of the rules and the machinery provided for their enforcement. A very gratifying spirit of friendly co-operation exists in all the departments of the government in the enforcement and uniform observance of both the letter and spirit of the civil-service act. Executive orders of July 3, 1902; March 26, 1903, and July 8, 1903, require that appointments of all unclassified laborers, both in the departments at Washington and in the field service, shall be made with the assistance of the United States civil service commission, under a system of registration to test the relative fitness of applicants for appointment of employment. This system is competitive, and is open to all citizens of the United States qualified in respect to age, physical ability, moral character, industry, and adaptability for manual labor; except that in case of veterans of the civil war the element of age is omitted. This system of appointment is distinct from the classified service and does not classify positions of mere laborer under the civil-service act and rules. Regulations in aid thereof have been put in operation in several of the departments and are being gradually extended in other parts of the service. The results have been very satisfactory, as extravagance has been checked by decreasing the number of unnecessary positions and by increasing the efficiency of the employees remaining.

The Army.

The effect of the laws providing a general staff for the army and for the more effective use of the national guard has been excellent. Great improvement has been made in the efficiency of our army in recent years. Such schools as those erected at Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley and the institution of fall maneuver work accomplish satisfactory results. The good effect of these maneuvers upon the national guard is marked, and adequate appropriation should be made to enable the guardsmen of the several states to share in the benefit. The government should as soon as possible secure suitable permanent camp sites for military maneuvers in the various sections of the country. The service thereby rendered not only to the regular army, but to the national guard of the several states, will be so great as to repay many times over the relatively small expense. We should not rest satisfied with what has been done, however. The only people who are contented with a system of promotion by mere seniority are those who are contemptuous of the right to reward meritorious over excellence. On the other hand a system which encouraged the exercise of social or political favoritism in promotions would be even worse. But it would surely be easy to devise a method of promotion from grade to grade which the opinion of the higher officers of the service upon the candidates should be decisive upon the standing and promotion of the latter. Just such a system now obtains in West Point. The relative standing each year work determines the standing of that year's class, the man being dropped or graduated into the next class in the relative position which his military superiors decide he is entitled to by merit. In other words, ability, energy, fidelity, and all other similar qualities determine the rank of a man year after year in West Point, and his standing in the army when he graduates from West Point; but from that time on, all effort to find which man is best or worst, and reward or punish him accordingly, is abandoned; no brilliancy, no amount of hard work, no eagerness in the performance of duty, can advance him, and no sickness or indifference that falls short of a court-martial offense can retard him. Until this system is changed we can not hope that our officers will be of as high grade as we have a right to expect, considering the material upon which we draw.

The Navy.

Shortly after the enunciation of that famous principle of American foreign policy now known as the "Monroe doctrine," President Monroe, in a special message to congress on January 30, 1824, spoke as follows: "The navy is the arm from which our government will always derive most aid in support of our rights. Every power engaged in war will know the strength of our naval power, the number of our ships of each class, their condition, and the promptitude with which we may bring them into service, and will pay due consideration to that argument."

I heartily congratulate the congress upon the steady progress in building up the American navy. We can not afford a let-up in this great work. We should still have means to go back. There should be no cessation in adding to the effective units of the fighting strength of the fleet. Meanwhile the navy department and the officers of the navy are doing excellent work, pure by providing constant service at sea under conditions akin to those of actual warfare. Our officers and enlisted men are learning to handle the battleships, cruisers, and torpedo boats with high efficiency in fleet and squadron formation, and the standard of marksmanship is being steadily raised. The best work ashore is indispensable, but the highest duty of a naval officer is to exercise command at sea.

The establishment of a naval base in the Philippines ought not to be longer postponed. Such a base is desirable in time of peace; in time of war it would be indispensable, and its lack would be ruinous. Without it our fleet would be helpless. Our experts have long agreed that Subig Bay is the proper place for the purpose. The national interests require that the work of fortification and development of a naval station at Subig Bay be begun at an early date; for under the best conditions it is a work which will consume much time.

It is eminently desirable, however, that there should be provided a naval general staff on lines similar to those of the general staff lately created for the army. Within the navy department itself the needs of the service have brought about a system under which the duties of a general staff are partially performed; for the bureau of navigation has under its direction the war college, the office of naval intelligence, and the board of inspection, and has been in close touch with the general board of the navy. But though under the excellent officers at their head these bureaus do good work, they have not the authority of a general staff, and have not sufficient scope to insure a proper readiness for emergencies. We need the establishment by law of a body of trained officers, who shall exercise a systematic control of the military affairs of the navy, and be authorized advisers of the secretary concerning it.

Isthmian Canal.

By the act of June 28, 1902, the congress authorized the President to enter into treaty with Colombia for the building of the canal across the Isthmus of Panama; it being provided that in the event of failure to secure such treaty after the lapse of a reasonable time, recourse should be had to building a canal through Nicaragua. It has not been necessary to consider this alternative, as I am enabled to lay before the Senate a treaty providing for the building of the canal across the Isthmus of Panama. This was the route which commended itself to the deliberate judgment of the congress, and we can now acquire by treaty to construct the canal over this route. The question is therefore, Is this the best route for the Isthmian canal shall be built, for that question has been definitely and irrevocably decided. The question is simply whether or not we shall have an Isthmian canal.

When the congress directed that we should take the Panama route under treaty with Colombia, the essence of the condition, of course, referred not to the government which controlled that route, but to the route itself; to the territory across which the route lay, not to the name which for the moment the territory bore on the map. The purpose of the law was to authorize the President to secure a treaty which would give us actual control of the Isthmus of Panama. This purpose has been fulfilled.

Planned Four Hundred Years Ago

For four hundred years, ever since shortly after the discovery of this hemisphere, the canal across the Isthmus has been planned for. For at least 50 years it has been worked at. When made, it is to last for the ages. It is to alter the geography of a continent and the trade routes of the world. We have shown by every treaty we have negotiated or attempted to negotiate with the peoples in control of the Isthmus and with foreign nations in reference thereto our consistent good faith in observing our obligations; on the one hand to the peoples of the Isthmus, and on the other hand to the civilized world whose commerce rights we are safe-guarding and guaranteeing by our action. We have done our duty to others in letter and in spirit, and we have shown the utmost forbearance in exacting our own rights.

Last spring, under the act above referred to, a treaty concluded between the representatives of the Republic of Colombia and of our government was ratified by the senate. This treaty was entered into at the urgent solicitation of the people of Colombia and after a body of experts appointed by our government especially to go into the matter of the routes across the Isthmus had pronounced unanimously in favor of the Panama route. In drawing up this treaty every concession was made to the people and to the government of Colombia. We were more than just in dealing with them.

Repudiation by Colombia.

Our generosity was such as to make it a serious question whether we had not gone too far in their interest at the expense of our own; for in our scrupulous desire to pay all possible heed, not merely to the real but even to the fancied rights of our weaker neighbor, who already owed so much to our protection and forbearance, we yielded in all possible ways to her desires in drawing up the treaty. Nevertheless the government of Colombia not merely repudiated the treaty, but repudiated it in such manner as to make it evident by the time the colombian congress adjourned that not the scantiest hope remained of ever getting a satisfactory treaty from them. The government of Colombia made the treaty, and yet when the Colombian congress was called to ratify it the vote against ratification was unanimous. It does not appear that the government made any real effort to secure ratification.

Immediately after the adjournment of the congress a revolution broke out in Panama. The people of Panama had long been discontented with the Republic of Colombia, and they had been kept quiet only by the prospect of the conclusion of the treaty, which was to them a matter of vital concern. When it became evident that the treaty was hopelessly lost, the people of Panama rose literally as one man. Not a shot was fired by a single man on the Isthmus in the interest of the Columbia government. Not a life was lost in the accomplishment of the revolution. The Colombian troops stationed on the Isthmus, who had long been unpaid, made common cause with the people of Panama, and with astonishing unanimity

Course of the United States.

the new republic was started. The duty of the United States in the premises was clear. In strict accordance with the principles laid down by Secretaries Cass and Seward in the official documents above quoted, the United States gave notice that it would permit the landing of no expeditionary force, the arrival of which would mean chaos and destruction along the line of the railroad and of the proposed canal, and an interruption of transit as an inevitable consequence. The de facto government of Panama was recognized in the following telegram to Mr. Ehrman:

"The people of Panama have, by apparently unanimous movement, dissolved their political connection with the Republic of Colombia and resumed their independence. When you are satisfied that a de facto government, republican in form and without substantial opposition from its own people, has been established in the state of Panama, you will enter into relations with it as the responsible government of the territory and look to it for all due action to protect the persons and property of citizens of the United States and to keep open the isthmian transit, in accordance with the obligations of existing treaties governing the relations of the United States to that territory."

The government of Colombia was notified of our action by the following telegram to Mr. Beaupre:

"The people of Panama having, by an apparently unanimous movement, dissolved their political connection with the Republic of Colombia and resumed their independence, and having adopted a government of their own, republican in form, with which the government of the United States of America has entered into relations, the President of the United States, in accordance with the ties of friendship which have so long and so happily existed between the respective nations, and earnestly commends to the governments of Colombia and Panama the peaceful and equitable settlement of all questions at issue between them. He holds that he is bound not merely by these obligations, but by interests of civilization, to see that the peaceful traffic of the world across the Isthmus of Panama shall not longer be disturbed by a constant succession of unnecessary and wasteful civil wars."

Riots and Insurrections.

The number of riots and insurrections during the past 57 years numbers 55. It will be remembered that some of them lasted for nearly three years before it was quelled; another for nearly a year. In short, the experience of over half a century has shown Colombia to be utterly incapable of keeping order on the Isthmus. Only the active interference of the United States has enabled her to preserve so much as a semblance of sovereignty. Had it not been for the exercise by the United States of the police power in her interest, her connection with the Isthmus would have been rendered long ago, in 1856, in 1860, in 1873, in 1885, in 1901, and again in 1902, sailors and marines from United States warships were forced to land in order to patrol the Isthmus, to protect life and property, and to see that the transit across the Isthmus was kept open. In fact, in 1862, in 1885, and in 1900, the Colombian government asked that the United States government would land troops to protect its interests and maintain order on the Isthmus. Perhaps the most extraordinary request is that which has just been received and which runs as follows:

Latest Proposition by Colombia.

"Knowing that revolution has already commenced in Panama (an eminent Colombian) says that if the government of the United States will land troops to disembark in Colon, sovereignty, and the transit, if requested by Colombian charge d'affaires, this government will declare martial law, and, by virtue of vested constitutional authority, when public order is disturbed, will approve by decree the ratification of the canal treaty as signed; or, if the government of the United States prefers, will call extra session of the congress—with new and friendly matters—next May to approve the treaty. (An eminent Colombian) has the perfect confidence that the president says, and if it became necessary, will go to the Isthmus or send representative there to adjust matters along above lines to the satisfaction of the people there."

This dispatch is noteworthy from two standpoints. Its offer of immediately guaranteeing the treaty to us is in sharp contrast with the positive and contemptuous refusal of the congress which has just closed its sessions to consider favorably such a treaty; it shows that the government which made the treaty really had absolute control over the situation, but did not choose to exercise this control. The dispatch further calls on us to restore order and secure Colombian supremacy in the Isthmus from which the Colombian government has just by its action decided to bar us by preventing the construction of the canal.

United States Control Necessary.

The control, in the interest of the commerce and traffic of the whole civilized world, of the means of rapid and safe transit across the Isthmus of Panama has become of transcendent importance to the United States. We have repeatedly exercised this control by intervening in the course of domestic dissension, and by protecting the territory from foreign invasion. In 1853 Mr. Everett assured the Peruvian minister that we should not hesitate to maintain the neutrality of the Isthmus in the case of war between Peru and Colombia. In 1864 Colombia, which has always been vigilant to avail itself of its privileges conferred by the treaty, expressed its expectation that in the event of war between Peru and Spain the United States would carry into effect the guaranty of neutrality. There have been few administrations of the state department in which the treaty has not, either on one side or the other, been used as a basis of more or less important demands. It was said by Mr. Fish in 1871 that the department of state had reason to believe that an attack upon Colombian sovereignty on the Isthmus had, on several occasions, been averted by warning from this government. In 1886, when Colombia was under the menace of hostilities from Italy in the Cerruti case, Mr. Payard expressed the serious concern that the United States could not but think that a European power would resort to force against a sister republic of this hemisphere, as to the sovereign and uninterrupted use of a part of whose territory we are guarantors under the solemn faith of a treaty.

The above recital of facts establishes beyond question: First, that the United States has for over half a century patiently and in good faith carried out its obligations under the treaty of 1846; second, that when for the first time it became possible for Colombia to do anything in requital of these services thus repeatedly rendered to it for 57 years by the United States, the Colombian government peremptorily and offensively refused us thus to do its part, even though to do so would have been to the advantage and immeasurably to the advantage of the state of Panama, for that time under its jurisdiction; third, that throughout this period revolutions, riots, and factional disturbances of every kind have occurred one after the other in almost uninterrupted succession, some of them lasting for months and even for years, while the central government was unable to put them down or to make peace with the rebels; fourth, that these disturbances instead of showing any sign of abating have tended to grow more numerous and more serious in the immediate past; fifth, that the control of Colombia over the Isthmus of Panama could not be maintained without the armed intervention and assistance of the United States. In other words, the government of Colombia, though wholly unable to maintain order on the Isthmus, has nevertheless declined to ratify a treaty the conclusion of which opened the only chance to secure its own stability and to guarantee permanent peace on, and the construction of a canal across, the Isthmus.

Sustains Government's Action.

Under such circumstances, the government of the United States would have been guilty of folly and weakness amounting in their sum to a crime against the nation, had it acted otherwise than it did when the revolution of November last took place in Panama. This great enterprise of building the interoceanic canal cannot be held up to gratify the whims, or out of respect to the governmental impotence, or to the even more sinister and evil political peculiarities, of people, who, though they dwell afar off, yet, against the wish of the actual dwellers on the isthmus, assert an unreal supremacy over the territory. The unreal supremacy over the territory. The possession of a territory fraught with such peculiar capacities as the isthmus in question carries with it obligations to mankind. The course of events has shown that this canal cannot be built by private enterprise, or by any other nation than our own; therefore it must be built by the United States.

Every effort has been made by the government of the United States to persuade Colombia to follow a course which was essentially not only to our interests and to the interests of the world, but to the interests of Colombia itself. These efforts have failed, and Colombia, by her persistence in repulsing the advances that have been made, has forced us, for the sake of our own honor, and of the interest and wel.-being, not merely of our own people but of the people of the Isthmus of Panama and the people of the civilized countries of the world, to take decisive steps to bring to an end a condition of affairs which had become intolerable. The new republic of Panama immediately offered to negotiate a treaty with us. The treaty I herewith submit. By it our interests are better safeguarded than in the treaty with Colombia, which was ratified by the senate at its last session. It is better in its terms than the treaties offered to us by the republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. At last the right to begin this great undertaking is made available. Panama has done her part. All that remains is for the American congress to do its part, and forthwith this republic will enter upon the execution of a project colossal in its size and of world-high incalculable possibilities for the good of this country and the nations of mankind.

Provisions of Treaty.

By the provisions of the treaty the United States guarantees and will maintain the independence of the republic of Panama. There is granted to the United States in perpetuity the use, occupation and control of a zone of land and water extending three nautical miles into the sea at either terminal, with all lands lying outside of the zone necessary for the construction of the canal or for its auxiliary works, and with the islands in the bay of Panama. The cities of Panama and Colon are not embraced in the canal zone, but the United States assumes their sanitation, and, in case of need, the maintenance of order therein; the United States enjoys within the zone limits all the rights, power and authority which it would possess were it the sovereign of the territory to the exclusion of sovereign rights by the republic. All railway and canal property rights beuonging to Panama and needed for the canal pass to the United States, including any property of the respective companies in the cities of Panama and Colon; the works, property and personnel of the canal and railways are exempted from taxation as well in the cities of Panama and Colon as in the canal zone and its dependencies. Free immigration of the personnel and importation of supplies for the construction and operation of the canal are granted. Protection is made for the use of military force and the building of fortifications by the United States for the protection of the transit. In other details, particularly as to the acquisition of the interests of the new Panama Canal company and the Panama railway by the United States and the condemnation of private property for the uses of the canal, the stipulations of the Hay-Herran treaty are closely followed, while the compensation to be given for these enlarged grants remains the same, being ten millions of dollars payable on exchange of ratifications; and, beginning nine years from that date, an annual payment of $250,000 during the life of the convention.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

BRISTOW'S REPORT.

Free Delivery Supplies Made a Source of Graft.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Charges that the purchase of supplies for the free delivery service have been made with a view to individual profit are made in the annual report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, which has just been made public. On this point Mr. Bristow says:

"An investigation, which is still in progress, has shown that for a number of years supplies for the rural delivery service have not been purchased with an eye single to the public interests. Both in the matter of quality and the cost of equipment the ruling motive has been individual gain. This applies to articles furnished under regular contract, such as street collection boxes and carriers' satchels, as well as to those bought in the open market under exigency privileges, which has been much abused.

"Favored contractors, abetted by a trusted but unfaithful official, have corrupted the public service. An early and thorough reformation will be undertaken along the line of service equipment with the prospective result of improved service at reduced cost. Fraudulent contracts have been abrogated. In the reletting of contracts honest competition will have fair and free play."

The report makes the following recommendations:

"An appropriation to construct inspectors' lookouts in postoffices wherever necessary in the opinion of the postmaster general; that the interstate commerce law be amended so as to prohibit common carriers from aiding and abetting in the green goods, lottery or any other scheme, carried on partly by mail and partly by common carrier, in violation of the postal laws; that special agents and postal inspectors be hereafter designated rural agents; that the provision that rural carriers shall not be prohibited from doing an express-package business be repealed; that the maximum of the rural carrier be increased to $750 per annum for a route of twenty-five miles or more in length, and the enactment of a law requiring assistant postmasters, cashiers and other employes to give bonds to postmasters direct and holding postmasters responsible under their own bonds."

The estimated expenditures for both city and rural free delivery service during the fiscal year beginning July 1 next will aggregate about $47,000,000. There were 15,061 appointments of postmasters during the year and the removals of postmasters for cause showed a decrease. There were 4,462 postoffices discontinued, of which 2,163 resulted from the extension of rural free delivery, the salaries of the postmasters of the latter offices aggregating $121,332.

During the year postmasters were dropped from the rolls as follows: Resignations, presidential 67, fourth class 8,-277; removals, presidential 41, fourth class 1,368; deaths, presidential 85, fourth class 713. On July 1 last there were 74,165 postoffices, of which 242 were first-class, 1,107 second-class, 3,690 third-class, and 69,136 fourth-class.

City free delivery service was established during the year at ninety-nine postoffices, making a total of 1,632 free delivery offices.

There are now in operation 19,398 rural free delivery routes. It is estimated that 3,200 additional routes can be established out of the appropriation now available, making 22,678 which will be in operation or ordered established by March 1, 1904. To maintain the service on these routes during the fiscal year from July 1, 1904, to June 30, 1905, will require $13,560,000.

If Congress provides for an increased number of agents as recommended it will require about $19,000,000 to maintain and install the service. If the maximum salary of the carriers is increased from $800 to $750 per annum, as recommended, it will necessitate an increase in the above estimates of about 25 per cent.

Chinese Expelled.

London, Dec. 7.—The Daily Mail's Tien Tsien correspondent says that a thousand Russians expelled the Chinese officials from the treasury at Mukden and installed themselves in their places.

Something good for Christmas

During the holiday season, when good cheer everywhere prevails, there is nothing nicer to have in the house than a little good whiskey, and besides, your physician will tell you it is excellent in many cases of sickness. But you must have good whiskey, pure whiskey. You don't want to drink poor whiskey yourself, much less offer it to your friends, while as a medicine, poor whiskey, adulterated whiskey, may do you decided harm.

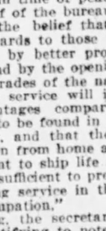
HAYNER WHISKEY goes to you direct from our own distillery, with all its original richness and flavor, and carries a UNITED STATES REGISTERED DISTILLER'S GUARANTEE of PURITY and AGE. When you buy HAYNER WHISKEY you save the enormous profits of the dealers and have our guarantee that your money will be promptly refunded if you are not perfectly satisfied with the whiskey after trying it. That's fair, isn't it?

HAYNER WHISKEY

PURE SEVEN-YEAR-OLD RYE

4 FULL QUARTS $3.20 EXPRESS PREPAID

We will send you FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES of HAYNER'S SEVEN-YEAR-OLD RYE for $3.20, express charges paid by us. Try it and if you don't find it all right and as good as you ever drank or can buy from any dealer at any price, send it back at our expense and the next mail will bring you your $3.20. Could any offer be fairer? This offer is backed by a company with a capital of $500,000.00, paid in full, and the proud reputation of 36 years of continuous success. We have over a quarter of a million satisfied customers, proving conclusively that our whiskey is all right and that we do exactly as we say. Shipment made in a plain sealed case, with no marks or brands to indicate contents.


HAYNER'S
SEVEN YEARS OLD
RYE

CANAL TREATY SIGNED

Panama Government Made No Amendments.

Washington, Dec. 2.—A dispatch from Panama this afternoon announces that the Panama canal treaty has been signed and no amendments were made to the convention.

Panama, Dec. 2.—Minister of Foreign Affairs Esprilla arrived here from Colon yesterday with the new canal treaty. The treaty was discussed last night, and, it is expected, will be ratified today by the republic of Panama.

Rear Admiral J. C. Walker arrived on the same train that brought Senor Esprilla.

Senors Ariango and Arias, with some of the ministers of the new republic met the party at the railway station. Senor Esprilla drove immediately to the government palace, where the chest containing the treaty was placed on a table in the main office. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon members of the junta and of the ministry assembled in the grand salon of the palace. The chest and two small tin boxes addressed to the members of the junta, and bearing the seals of Minister Bunau-Varilla, were placed on a table in the center of the room. Surrounded by the spectators, who were seated about the table, Senor Esprilla opened the chest and withdrew the cotton wrappers, finally bringing to light the treaty, enveloped in the Panamanian flag. The document was addressed to the junta by Minister Banau-Varilla.

Senor Arias then broke the seal and formally handed the paper to the members of the junta. There was only one copy in the English language. After discussing its provisions, the ministers and members of the junta all signed the document with a special gold pen purchased for the occasion.

Panama, Dec. 7.—At 8 a. m. today the canal treaty was sent to Colon on a special car, preparatory to shipping it to the United States.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Official information of the ratification by the junta of Panama, of the Panaman canal treaty has been received by the administration. In accordance with the information the president will send to the senate the treaty for ratification by that body.

NATURALIZATION FRAUDS.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The annual report of the attorney general of the United States calls attention to the naturalization frauds disclosed during the last year in every direction of the country and says that every honest citizen is deeply concerned in repelling and preventing dishonest claims to that high right. He therefore recommends for the consideration of congress the enactment of a law which will provide for the following results:

"The omission from the statutes as they now stand of the question of intent and guilty knowledge where an offender has in his possession a fraudulent certificate of naturalization unlawfully obtained in any manner whatever, or where a fraudulent certificate so held and obtained is used for any purpose whatever. Such a change would permit prosecutions for the possession of a fraudulent certificate unlawfully obtained, or for the use of a fraudulent certificate, irrespective of the intent of the oath of the applicant and witness on the certificate, which is to be regarded as presenting merely a question of fact.

"That the law be amended so as to compel an alien at the time he applies for citizenship to present from the appropriate immigration authorities a certificate showing his age and date of his arrival and containing also his physical description, similar to that in a passport. This certificate should form a part of the court records, like his application for citizenship.

"The petition and application and all certificates should be uniform throughout the United States and the final certificate of citizenship issued by any court throughout the country should contain a physical description of the applicant.

"The certificates should be printed in Washington under government direction, containing a watermark similar to United States obligations, and the unlawful possession of or counterfeiting of such certificates should be made an offense against the United States. The blank certificates should be distributed to the various courts on requisition, and each one should be properly numbered and recorded."

Herman J. Schulteis, chairman of the legislative committee of the Knights of Labor, accuses Speaker Cannon of packing the House labor committee and is expelled from the speaker's room.

Are You a Man?

BECK'S WONDER=WORKERS FOR MEN. PRICE ONE DOLLAR

Are You the Strong and Kingly Man Who Can Hold Royal Court with the Best on Earth, or are You Lost to Men's Delights Because of Lack of Vim and Vigor?

MY DEAR BROTHER:—More than 300,000 weak men who have used "Beck's Wonder-Workers for Men" for a short time, one tablet at a dose, three times a day, are now men in fact as well as in name;—men who mingle with the world in gleeful enjoyment of all the solid, satisfying pleasures known only to true men;—men able to do the proper thing at the proper time;—men able to work or play;—men whose lives have now become a life-long holiday;—men filled with all the blessings that Perfect Health alone can bring. This statement is Gospel Truth, and it is also true that you are weak (no matter what the cause or whether you be old or young) their use will cure you quicker and at less expense than any other remedy in the world. They cured me at the age of forty-four years when I lacked that vitality without which a person is a man only in name, and after I had been nearly ruined by rascals who disgrace the medicine business.

Are You the Healthy Man You Ought to be, or Has Hard Work or the Reckless Acts of By-Gone Days Brought Loss of Strength and Thrown Your Nervous System out of Tune?

The myriad and marvelous cures that "Beck's Wonder-Workers for Men" have made of Varicocele, Nervous Debility, Exhausting Drains, Weak Back, Kidney Ills and Men's Weakness of all kinds, at all ages and from all causes, lead me to say sincerely on my honor as a man that I do not believe there is a case of that kind in the world to-day that this unparalleled remedy will fail to quickly cure if used as directed above. During the past five years (my advertisement has been in this paper at intervals all of that time) the sale of my "Wonder-Workers" has developed into **the Largest Mail Order Medicine Business in the World**—a sale that aggregates **at least ten times as much as that of any other similar remedy on earth**, and to-day "Wonder-Workers" go by mail or express to every country in the world. No medicine that is not what it is claimed to be can ever attain a record such as this.

You Can be a Man of Vim—a Strong, Peerless, Fearless, Nervy, Manly Man—and Hold High Carnival with Perfect Health if You Use Wonder-Workers.

The secret of the wonderful success of my "Wonder-Workers" lies in the fact that **they do not contain any of the poisonous drugs** found in worthless nostrums sent out by the "Free Trial," "C. O. D.," "Belt," or "Prescription" fakirs and frauds so dangerous to human life. "Wonder-Workers" are pure and it is Perfectly Safe to use them at any time or under any circumstances. They never fail. If you order "Wonder-Workers" **mention this paper,** the publisher of which is hereby authorized to publish me as a fraud if I fail to do exactly as I agree with any of its readers.

The price of "Wonder-Workers" is only One Dollar per box, always cash with order; by express at your expense. It will cost 25 cents to lift them from express office. If you send $1.15 to pay packing and postage, I send them by mail prepaid, thus saving you ten cents. If you have any doubt about me, write to any Commercial Agency, the First National Bank of this city, (the bank of which Hon. Asa S. Bushnell, Ex-Gov. of Ohio, is President), or to any of your friends in Springfield. Sincerely your friend,

GEO. S. BECK,

46 and 46 Main Street, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

DYSENTERY,
DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA MORBUS

Internally—A half to a teaspoonful of Radway's Ready Relief in a half-tumbler of water, repeated as often as the discharges continue, and a flannel saturated with Ready Relief placed over the stomach and bowels, will afford immediate relief and soon effect a cure.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

HOUSE COMMITTEES.

The Personnel of the More Important Ones.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Speaker Cannon announced the house committees upon the convening of that body today. The personnel of the important committees is as follows:

Appropriations—Hemenway, Bingham, Van Voorhees, McCleary, Litauer, Brownlow, Gardner (Mich.), Burlett, Gillett (Mass.), Smith (Ia.), Marsh, Livingston, Pierce, Benton, Taylor, Underwood, Brundidge.

Judiciary—Jenkins, Parker, Alexander, Warner, Littlefield, Thomas (Ia.), Powers (Mass.), Nevin, Palmer, Pearre, Gillett (Cal.), DeArmond, Smith (Ky.), Clayton, Henry (Tex.), Little, Brantley.

Banking and Currency—Fowfer, Prince, Calderhead, Lovering, Douglas, Power (Me.), Spalding, McMorran, Weems, McCreary, Daniels, Thayer, Lewis, Padgett, Bartlett, Thompson, Pujo.

Interstate and Foreign Commerce—Hepburn, Sherman, Wanger, Mann, Lovering, Stevens, Burke, Esch, Cushman, Kyle, Townsend, Davy, Adamson, Shackleford, Ryan, Richardson (Ala.), LaMar (Fla.).

Rivers and Harbors—Burton, Dovenor, Bishop, Acheson, Alexander, Laurence, Davidson, McLachlan, Lorimer, Jones (Wash.), Bede, Lester, Bankhead, Sparkman, Ransdell, Burgess, Humphreys.

Merchant Marine and Fisheries—Grosvenor, Minor, Greene, Stevens, Fordney, Wachter, Littlefield, Humphrey, Flack, Birdsall, Wilson (Ill.), Spight, Small, Davis, McDermott, Lukin, Goulden.

Agriculture — Wadsworth, Henry (Conn.), Wright, Haugen, Scott, Haskins, Graff, Cromer, Lorimer, Brooks, Adams (Wis.), Lamb, Bowle, Burleson, Lever, Brezeale, Cassingham, Rodey.

Foreign Affairs—Hitt, Adams (Pa.), Cousins, William A. Smith (Mich.), Charles B. Landis (Ind.), Perkins, Beidler, Foster, Otjen, Capron, Longworth, Dinsmore, Howard, Burleson, Scudder, Kehoe, Flood.

Military Affairs—Hull, Ketcham, Parker, Capron, Stevens, Dick, Mondell, Esch, Prince, Holliday, Young, Sulzer, Hay, Slayden, Broussard, Mahoney, Denny, McGuire.

Naval Affairs—Foss, Dayton, Loudenslager, Butler (Pa.), Muda, Cousins, Roberts, Vreeland, Brick, Brandegee, Loud, Meyer, Tate, William W. Kitchen, Vandiver, Wade.

The following are the chairmen of the less important committees: Elections No. 1, Mann; elections No. 2, Olmsted; Elections No. 3, Driscoll; coinage, weights and measures, Southard; railways and canals, Davidson; manufacturers, Sibley; mines and mining, Brown, (Wis.); Pacific railroads, W. A. Smith, (Mich.); levees and improvements of the Mississippi river; Bartholdt; education, Southwick; patents, Skiles; claims, Graff; war claims, Mahon; private land claims, Smith (Ill.); revision of the laws, Warner; reform in the civil service, Gillett; election of President, vice President and representatives in congress, Gaines, (W. Va.); alcoholic liquors traffic, Spears; acoustics, Bishop; expenditures in the state department, Ketcham; expenditures in the treasury department, Cousins; expenditures in the war department, Warner; expenditures in the navy department, Greene, (Pa.); expenditures in the postoffice, Wagner; expenditures in the interior department, Minor; expenditures in the department of justice, Calderhead; expenditures in the department of agriculture, Wright; expenditures on public lands, Hughes, (W. Va.); postoffices and post roads, Overstreet; public lands, Lacey; Indian affairs, Sherman; territories, Hamilton; insular affairs, Cooper; public buildings and grounds, Gillett; labor, Gardner; militia, Dick; invalid pensions, Sulloway; pensions, Loudenslager; District of Columbia, Babcock; irrigation of arid lands, Mondell; immigration and naturalization, Howell; census, Crumpacker; library, McCleary; printing, Landis; industrial arts and expositions, Tawney.

CLAIMS AGAINST DOMINICA

Washington, Dec. 3.—It is learned that John G. Carlisle has been named as a representative of the United States in the arbitration of the claims of the San Domingo Improvement company against the Dominican Republic, which was arranged for by former President Wos Y Gil, as one of the last of his official acts. Senor Galvan, secretary of finance under the Wos Y Gil administration, was named as the Dominican representative in the arbitration and the United States and San Domingo united in the selection of Judge George Gray as the umpire. The state department will support Minister Powell in his refusal to yield to the desire of the Dominican provisional government that the personnel of the arbitrators be changed so as to eliminate Senor Galvan.

The state department has been informed that already a new revolutionary movement has begun in Santo Domingo were before the provisional government that ousted Wos Y Gil has been able to solidify itself into a permanent government. These repeated uprisings, in the face of Minister Powell's warnings has concentrated the attention of the Washington authorities upon the island where much American capital is invested and there may be a renewal in a more forcible manner of Minister Powell's declaration that the peace of the United States is not to be troubled in this fashion.

RESIGNS HIS PENSION.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Commissioner of Pension Ware has received the following letter from Gov. Bliss, of Michigan, voluntarily relinquishing his pension:

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 1, 1903.

"Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C.:

"I have the honor to ask you to discontinue after this date the pension granted to me by the United States government for disability. I feel that I have won what I wished, a place on the pension rolls with my comrades of the war of the rebellion, and relinquish the pension only because I doubt the propriety of continuing as a pensioner when I am not in need. My disability was fully determined by two examinations, one under Commissioner Evans and the second under your administration, each conducted by two competent physicians, resulting in an order placing me on the rolls at $12 a month. My intention was to donate this money to the work of the Grand Army of the Republic and this I have done.

"Thanking you for the honor you have done me, I remain

"Your obedient servant,

(Signed) "A. T. BLISS."

The Standard in Europe.

Bucharest, Roumania, Dec. 3.—The Standard Oil company has decided to develop the oil lands of Roumania. Its representatives here have registered a company in the local court.

GENERAL WOOD.

Senate Committee Again Investigating Charges.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The senate committee on military affairs resumed its hearing in the General Leonard Wood case today with Commander Lucien Young, of the navy on the stand. The committee was in session for an hour when adjournment was taken to give the members opportunity to attend the closing of the extraordinary session and the convening of the regular session of the senate.

After the opening of the senate the committee again convened occupying the peculiar position of investigating a nomination which had failed by reason of the expiration of the extra session of the senate, when Col. Charles S. Diehl, assistant general manager of the Associated Press was called. Commander Young was subpoenaed by the military affairs committee at the request of Major Estes G. Rathbone, who had furnished to the committee a list of questions which he desired to have addressed to the witness. Some of the questions were ignored by the committee, though much testimony was brought out in relation to the charges that General Wood, after assuming the duties of governor general of Cuba, employed detectives not connected with the army to shadow certain army officers for the purpose of reporting their actions to General Wood.

Commander Young testified that he occupied the dual positions of Captain of the Port of Havana and commander of the naval station at Havana. Under the first position he was subordinate to Gen. Wood, but under the latter was in no way amenable to General Wood's orders.

The witness said he discovered detectives shadowing him and that upon investigation he learned that General Tasker H. Bliss, General Charles F. Humphrey and Major E. Ladd also were followed by detectives. He asserted that he knew the detectives were in the pay of General Wood.

In reference to his recall from the post at Havana, Commander Young said he was assured by General Wood that he was very sorry and unable to understand the order which had been received from Washington. Commander Young said when he arrived at Washington he learned that the recall had been at the suggestion of General Wood and that there is correspondence on file at the war department to prove the assertion.

WARE TO RETIRE.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Eugene F. Ware, the commissioner of pensions, will retire from that office by about the middle of November of next year, and will return immediately to the practice of law in Kansas.

His contemplated action has been the

EUGENE WARE—IRONQUILL
PHOTO BY WENE.

subject of several interviews with the President, which have been kept secret, but he has steadfastly refused to discuss the matter. As a writer he is well known over the pen name of "Ironquill."

TREASURY FIGURES.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The monthly coinage statement issued by the director of the mint shows that during November the total coinage executed at the mints of the United States was $10,425,120, as follows: Gold, $8,794,000; silver, $1,401,000; minor coinage, $229,520. In addition 14,981,823 silver pieces were coined for the Philippine Islands, and 1,400,000 silver pieces were coined for Venezuela.

The comparative statement of the government receipts and expenditures shows that for the month of November the total receipts were $44,692,594, and the expenditures $47,427,788, having a deficit for the month of $2,735,194. The receipts from customs are shown to have been $19,220,347, a decrease for the month of about $3,270,000. Internal revenue, $21,255,511, an increase of $2,388,000; miscellaneous, $4,226,735, increase $2,000,000. The expenditures on account of the War Department show a decrease of $1,450,000. For the navy an increase is shown of $3,703,000.

The monthly statement of the comptroller of the currency shows that at the close of business November 30, 1903, the total circulation of national bank notes were $421,106,376, an increase for the year of $36,252,465, and an increase for the month of $1,496,296. The amount of circulation, based on United States bonds, was $383,018,484, an increase for the year of $41,-918,073, and an increase for the month of $2,367,663. The circulation secured by lawful money aggregated $38,088,495, a decrease for the year of $665,808, and a decrease for the month of $871,367. The amount of United States registered bonds on deposit to secure circulating notes was $384,625,930 and to secure public deposits $158,588,940.

SPRINGER DEAD.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Former Representative William M. Springer, of Illinois, Democratic leader conspicuous in the house of representatives during the 44th to 53rd congresses, inclusive, and once chairman of the ways and means committee of the house, died at his residence in this city today, aged 67 years. His death was due to pneumonia contracted in Chicago Thanksgiving day. He was attending a dinner there and was suddenly take with a violent chill. He left Chicago the following day and arrived here last Saturday afternoon very ill. His family physician, Dr. J. B. Gregg Custis, was immediately summoned but Mr. Springer grew steadily worse. His condition became critical yesterday and a radical change for the worse occurred last night. He sank rapidly and passed away at 3:25 o'clock this morning. His wife and son, Chaplain R. W. Springer, U. S. A., who has been stationed at Fort Washington, but was summoned home when his father's condition became serious, were at the bedside during the distinguished patient's dying hours. Mr. Springer has been a resident of this city during the past few years following his retirement from the federal bench in Indian Territory, and has followed the practice of law begun at Springfield, Ill., before his congressional career began.

He has represented many of the Indian claims before the interior department and before the federal and local courts here.

The annual report of E. C. Brandanberg, attorney in charge of the bankruptcy matters in the department of justice, shows that 14,308 voluntary petitions in bankruptcy were filed throughout the United States for the year ended September 30, 1903, which is more than 2,000 less than were filed during any of the preceding years since the enactment of the law on July 1, 1898.

HERBERT SPENCER DEAD

Famous British Author Passes Away, Aged 83 Years.

London, Dec. 8.—Herbert Spencer, the famous author, died this morning at his home in Brighton. His health had been failing for some months. The illness took a critical turn a few days ago and he became unconscious last night, passing away without pain.

By his own desire the least possible information was given out during Mr. Spencer's illness. He was born in 1820.

The newspapers all publish long appreciations and anecdotes of Mr. Spencer, whom they universally describe as the "last of the great thinkers of the Victorian age."

Herbert Spencer was the founder of the system, named by himself the synthetic philosophy. From the time he was 17 to his 25th year he studied civil engineering, but then gave up that profession and devoted himself to literature. He became assistant editor of the Economist in 1848 and remained with the publication five years. His first effort in the field of general literature was in 1842, when a series of letters to the "Nonconformist" on "The Proper Sphere of Government," were published. In 1855, four years before the appearance of Darwin's great work on evolution, "The Origin of Species," Herbert Spencer published his "Principles of Psychology," which is based on the principle of evolution. In 1860 he issued a prospectus of his "System of Synthetic Philosophy," in which he proposed to trace the progress of evolution in life, mind, society and morality. His following works were along this line. In 1882 Herbert Spencer visited the United States and gave a number of lectures in this country.

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 1.—When the House convened Mr. Cushman (Rep., Wash.) was sworn in as a member. Mr. Payne (N. Y.) moved that when the House adjourn it be until Friday. Mr. Williams, the minority leader, asked that thirty minutes on a side be given for debate, whereupon Mr. Payne asked that unanimous consent be given as desired by Mr. Williams. The speaker, in repeating the request, first used the word "debate," then said, "30 minutes for talk." The motion was adopted on a division by 97 to 92.

The Senate was in open session 30 minutes. After receiving a number of bills, resolutions and petitions and after spending some time in executive session the Senate adjourned over today until Friday. A majority of the bills offered were for private pensions, and most of the petitions for the expulsion of Mr. Smoot (Rep., Utah). As usual Mr. Cullom (Rep., Ill) called up the Cuban reciprocity bill, but as no one manifested a desire to address the Senate upon it the bill went over. The Senate went into executive session at 12:30.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The Senate was in session only from noon until 12:35 and on motion of Mr. Allison adjourned until tomorrow. The business transacted was purely of a routine character. It had been considered probable that a resolution for the adjournment of the extra session of congress would be brought in, but none was offered and a session was provided for tomorrow with the hope that an adjournment agreement may be reached by that time.

The House was in session but five minutes. Mr. Hunter (Ky.) and Mr. Nevin (Ohio) were sworn in as members. At 12:05 the House adjourned until tomorrow.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The House adjourned today, bringing the extra session of congress, so far as that body is concerned, to an end, as when it reassembles Monday, it will be to begin the second session of the Fifty-Eighth congress.

The Senate did not adjourn, but took a recess until Monday at 11:30. The action of the House in the Senate suspended in the air, in a measure, and prevented the closing of the extraordinary session by a concurrent resolution.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The Senate today closed the extraordinary session at noon and immediately entered on the duties of the regular session. The unusual features were the close of the called session by announcement from the chair and the offering of two prayers in the Senate within a half-hour of each other. The business transacted consisted of the reading of the President's message and the beginning of the discussion of the Cuban reciprocity bill. Mr. Cullom, who has charge of the Cuban bill, made a speech, advocating its passage in the interest of American trade. The reading of the President's message was concluded at 3:26 p. m. The Senate took up the resolution calling on the postmaster-general to send to the Senate committee on postoffices and post roads the papers bearing on the recent investigation into irregularities in the postoffice department. It was laid over until tomorrow. The Panama Canal treaty was sent to the Senate, but as there was no executive session after its receipt, it was not referred to the committee on foreign relations.

The House convened in regular session and listened to the reading of the President's annual message. More than an hour and a half was consumed in the reading of the message. A considerable amount of routine matters necessary to facilitate the work of committees was transacted. Representative Prince, of Illinois, introduced a bill today providing that $100,000,000 of the public moneys now deposited with national bank depositories shall be invested by the secretary of the treasury at the rate of $5,000,000 a month in state, county and municipal bonds which shall not less than 2 per cent. Representative Dwight, of New York, introduced a bill establishing a postal currency providing for notes in the denomination of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, to be issued by the postmaster-general and kept on sale by all postmasters. Representative W. A. Smith, of Michigan, introduced a bill making McKinley's birthday, Jan. 29, a national holiday, to be known as "McKinley Day." Representative W. A. Smith, of Michigan, introduced a resolution reciting that, as the secretary of navy has decided that contractors owning or managing shipyards on the great lakes are not eligible to bid on the construction of war vessels because of the prohibitory agreement between the United States and Great Britain, that the secretary of state be requested to transfer to the House the status of the agreement between the United States and Great Britain said to prohibit the building, arming or maintaining of more than a single war vessel on the great lakes. Representative Dalzell introduced a bill to incorporate the Lake Erie & Ohio River Ship Canal Co. The House adjourned at 3:30 out of respect to the memory of Henry Burk (Pa.), a member, who died Saturday.

CONFEDERATE SARCASM.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 4.—The Texas chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy has adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas, The President of the United States, by his recent course toward the republic of Panama, has shown to the world his indorsement of the principle of the right of secession; and,

"Whereas, The people of the Northern states by their acceptance and approval of his course, have shown that they have been led by him out of the fog of ignorance on the bright real measures of truth, attained by the Southern statesmen so many years ago.

"Be it resolved, That we extend to the President the hearty thanks of the Daughters of the Confederacy of the state of Texas in convention assembled for his indorsement of the principles and his vindication of the cause for which the Southern people fought so gloriously but so disastrously in the war between the states, and,

"Be it resolved, further, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the President by the corresponding secretary of the Texas state division, United Daughters of the Confederacy."

Washington, Dec. 8.—Representative W. A. Smith, of Michigan, has introduced a bill making McKinley's birthday, January 29, a national holiday to be known as "McKinley Day."

Representative Dalzell has introduced a bill to incorporate the Lake Erie and Ohio River Ship Canal company. It is the same bill introduced by him in the last congress.

CONSUL ATTACKED

While Defending a Naturalized American Citizen.

Constantinople, Dec. 8.—The United States flag over the consulate at Alexandretta, Asiatic Turkey, has been hauled down, and Consul Davis has left his post for Beirut in consequence of a serious diplomatic incident during which Mr. Davis was insulted and assaulted by the local police.

The affair grew out of the arrest of an Armenian, Ohannes Attarian, a naturalized American citizen. Attarian had been in prison at Aleppo during the last two months and had just been liberated through the intervention of the American consular agent on condition of his leaving the country forthwith. Mr. Davis was accompanying Attarian on board a departing steamer when the police intercepted the party, assaulted and insulted Mr. Davis, and, despite the resistance of the consul and his attendant guards, rearrested Attarian and took him back to prison. Mr. Davis immediately lowered the flag over the consulate and formally broke off relations with the Turkish authorities by quitting Alexandretta, leaving the consulate in charge of the vice-consul. A mob of Moslems seized on the occasion to make a hostile demonstration against the consulate and against the Christians generally.

The local authorities assert that Mr. Davis struck the police with a cane and that after the rearrest of Attarian the consular cavasses (military couriers) attempted to rescue him and that in the fracas which ensued the cavasses broke the windows of the prison.

The Turkish authorities further claim that Attarian, who is a native of Diarbekir, Asiatic Turkey, has been traveling about the country with an illegal passport. They also point out that the question of Armenians naturalized in America returning to Turkey has always been a source of trouble, since the porte invariably refuses to recognize naturalization.

When Attarian was arrested, $2,500 was found in his possession. This, it is believed, may have contributed to his arrest, the Turks suspecting him of being a revolutionist.

The matter is engaging the energetic attention of the United States legation here. Minister Leishman has made urgent representations to the porte and is now awaiting a fuller report before taking further steps.

The outrage, it is anticipated here, will lead to strong action on the part of the United States to obtain full reparation, especially as full satisfaction for the Beirut affair has not yet been given.

Leishman Instructed to Investigate

Washington, Dec. 8.—The state department has received a brief cablegram from Consul Davis, at Alexandretta, Asiatic Turkey, saying that he had had trouble with the local police at Alexandretta, and had left for Beirut in consequence. The state department promptly cabled Minister Leishman, at Constantinople, to institute a thorough investigation of the whole affair. It is expected that Minister Leishman will call at the foreign office today to inquire of the Turkish officials regarding the matter.

"JOHN BROWN'S BODY."

Oshkosh, Wis., Dec. 2.—James Howard Jenkins, president of the German National bank of Oshkosh, has thrown a light upon the origin of the immortal war song, "John Brown's Body," having been one of the members of the original quartet that sang it forty years ago.

In 1861, Mr. Jenkins says, the Boston infantry, a battalion of three companies under command of Major Rogers, of the

JAMES HOWARD JENKINS

Boston Journal, was sent to Fort Warren, in Boston harbor, for drill and garrison duty. This battalion was made up largely of the better class of city boys.

Among the members were many excellent singers. One of the male quartets was composed of four sergeants, Jenkins, Brown, Edgerley and Eldrege, who were on the lookout for a good marching melody. From some unknown quarter came a verse—

John Brown's body lies moldering in the grave,
His soul goes marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!

They adapted an old camp meeting melody, sung by colored Methodists at Martha's Vineyard to the words, "Come, Brothers, Will You Meet Us."

CUBAN LOAN TROUBLES.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Mr. Squiers, United States minister to Cuba, called at the state department today to discuss the Cuban situation with Secretary Hay. President Estrada Palma is striving to adjust the claims of the veterans of the Cuban army for back pay, but is confronted with an enormous increase in the amount of these claims, which, originally about ten million dollars in the aggregate, have now increased to fifty-two millions. In addition the civilians who were employed by the revolutionary government before Cuban independence was achieved have united to present their claims for compensation, the allowance of which would increase the total amount which the Cuban government must borrow to no less than seventy-five million dollars. The committee which was appointed to float a loan of thirty-five million dollars has returned to Havana and is now seeking to modify the conditions of the loan to make it acceptable to New York and European financiers, mainly in the direction of increasing the interest from 5 per cent to about 6 or 7 per cent, of lowering below the 90 per cent, proposed the amount for which the bonds were to be placed on the market.

IN MACEO'S MEMORY.

Havana, Dec. 7.—Today was observed as a national holiday in Cuba, it being the seventh anniversary of the death of General Maceo, who was killed while daringly attempting to raise an army in Havana province with which to attack Matanzas, and also the anniversary of the death of General Gomez's eldest son, who was Maceo's side-de-camp and who was shot while trying to rescue Maceo's body. The ceremonies at Cascajual, where Maceo was buried, were attended by a throng of people from Havana, including government officials and clergy.

Paintings Lost.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 4.—Paintings valued at $200,000, several of which were to have been exhibited at the St. Louis exposition, have been lost. They were painted by Chas. R. Hall and his brother, both of Omaha. Mr. Hall left the paintings, 800 in number, in his studio in Seattle. He later ordered them shipped to Omaha and received what purported to be a bill of lading. Two months have elapsed since their alleged shipment, and no trace can be found of the art treasures. Mr. Hall believes they have been stolen.

NATIONAL BANKS.

Comptroller Ridgely Commends Careful Management.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Comptroller of the Currency Ridgely in his annual report prepared for transmission to congress pays a high tribute to the banks of the United States. "During the past year or more," says the comptroler, "our banks have successfully stood the severe strain due to a great decline in the market prices of all classes of securities and the natural reaction following a period of great business activity and very general speculation, not only in stocks and securities, but in many commodities and products.

"There have been, considering all the circumstances, fewer bank failures than might have been expected. Those which have occurred have been due to special or local causes or gross mismanagement, and in some cases most flagrant dishonesty on the part of the bank officials.

"As a rule the reports of the bank examiners show the national banks to own few stocks, and almost none of a very speculative character. The bank reports show total loans by all the banks of $1,372,697,751 on collateral security. These loans are mostly on good classes of stocks and bonds well margined, and as far as they are concerned there is less cause for concern than there has been at any time for several years. The loans are readjusted on a lower basis of prices than before and are, as a whole, as amply of more amply margined than they were on the higher prices.

"It is due to the banks to say that the way they have handled their business and met this decline is an evidence of strength and careful management.

The comptroller renews the recommendations contained in his report for 1902 for legislation in regard to liquidation and consolidation of national banks and extension of corporate existence.

The most notable fact in regard to the national bank circulation is the great increase in its volume, which reached $421,-222,489 Sept. 5, 1903, the largest amount which has ever been in circulation. It is 55.43 per cent of the maximum possible circulation, which is higher than this percentage has been since 1886.

The report compares the bank statement of Sept. 15, 1902, with those of Sept. 9, 1903, and says that during this period the loanable funds were augmented, as follows: Capital stock to the extent of $48,187,241; surplus and other profits, $60,-760,984.22; government deposits, $25,671,197.37.

Notwithstanding the increase in loanable funds and the volume of loans and discounts there was a net decrease from Sept. 15, 1902, to Sept. 9, 1903, in individual deposits of $82,940,356. This item reached its maximum during the year and also during the existence of the national banking system, on June 9, 1903—namely, $3,200,933,509.22. From this high-water mark there was a decline on Sept. 9 to $3,156,333,499.07, or $44,600,010.15.

The capital stock and surplus funds of the associations gradually increased from $714,616,353 and $335,763,730.28, respectively, on Nov. 25, 1902, to $753,722,658 and $370,390,-684.26, respectively, on Sept. 9, 1903.

The loans and discounts of national banks reached their maximum in the history of the system Sept. 9, 1903, when they aggregated $3,481,446,772.

The deposit liabilities of national banks on which reserve is required amounted November 25, 1902, to $3,705,217,132, against which was held in cash, in funds credited by reserve agents and in the 5 per cent redemption fund, $987,074,218, or 26.64 per cent. The legal reserve, however, amounted to $817,981,481, or 22.08 per cent. The deposit liabilities increased February 6, 1903, to $3,851,394,457, declined to $3,832,-441,585 April 9, and to $3,817,035,031 June 9. At date of the report made September 9, 1903, the deposit liabilities had increased to $3,863,512,112, on which legal reserve was held of $850,762,184, or 22.02 per cent.

An analysis of the consolidated returns fro institutions, savings, private banks and trust companies shows an increase in aggregate resources in 1903 over 1902 of about $661,000,000 and over 1898 of nearly $3,385,000,000. Loans and discounts amount to $4,296,275,886, a gain of more than $854,-000,000 over the amount reported for 1902.

The number of depositors in savings banks (exclusive of those in state banks of Illinois having savings departments) has increased since 1902 from 6,388,793 to 6,674,287, and the average deposit from $414.85 to $421.84. Including savings depositors in the Illinois state banks, the total number of depositors has increased from 6,666,672 in 1902 to 7,035,238 in 1903, and the average each depositor, estimated to be $412.53 in 1902, to $417.21 this year. The aggregate deposits in savings institutions of the country in 1902 were $2,750,177,290, and for the current year $2,935,204,845, an increase of $185,027,555.

SPANISH WAR SOLDIERS.

Indianaoplis, Dec. 2.—Before the next encampment of the Spanish-American War Veterans' Association is held in Milwaukee a consolidation of the association with the Spanish war veterans may have been made possible. The council of administration of the association met here last night and audited the business and the accounts of the general offices. Capt. W. E. English, of Indianapolis, was elected 'commander-in-chief, and, with Colonel Russell B. Harrison as his adjutant general, will serve until the next encampment.

Major Harold C. Megrew, of Indianapolis, is at present at the head of the Spanish war veterans by virtue of his election in October. He favors the consolidation.

University Burned.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 2.—The Ottawa University, in this city, was totally destroyed by fire early today. All that remains of the magnificent stone building, which was one of the sights of the city, are portions of the walls. The loss is estimated at $250,000, partly covered by insurance. It will be two years before it can be rebuilt and meantime it will be impossible to get a place here suitable to carry on the work of the institution.

There were 450 students at the university which was a Roman Catholic institution and was carried on under the charge of the clergy. Of the students about 350 were boarders and the remainder day scholars. Nearly all of the boarders were from the United States, principally from the New England states.

Ohio at St. Louis.

Columbus, O., Dec. 3.—The St. Louis exposition commission will ask the legislature to appropriate $25,000. The last legislature appropriated $75,000, of this amount $35,000 was to be used in erecting an "Ohio building" on the grounds. The commissioners say that the additional amount is desired for the purpose of making a state exhibit. They say that Ohio has not appropriated more than half as much for representation at this exposition as other states of her rank.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

Weekly Trade Report.

New York, Dec. 5.—Bradstreet's says today:

"The better feeling—approaching optimism in some lines—is due to improvement in the retail trade, stimulated by cold weather, the advent of the holiday season and the more normal tone of public sentiment. Jobbing trade in seasonable goods has also expanded, as a result of reorders to fill depleted stocks. Back of these, but with an apparently close connection in its effect upon sentiment, is the strong position of the agricultural staples.

"Cold weather has always stimulated the coal trade, east and west.

"More confidence is also shown in the market for the cruder forms of iron, and prices are steadier.

"Some industries, notably flour milling in the northwest and shoe manufacturing in New England, are in apparently good shape, with record-breaking shipments noted for the season, but the advance in raw cotton is a matter of concern to the trade, where, indeed, the possibility of curtailment is being mooted. In the iron and steel trade, shut-downs more than offset resumptions. Low water in the east limits mill operations at many points. Readjustments of wages to meet new conditions are particularly prominent in cotton manufacturing and in iron and steel, but are being accepted with much less friction than earlier anticipated. Winter weather is causing a slowing down in many lines of building, and lumber, other building materials and hardware are rather less active for this reason. Lake navigation is practically ended, with a larger movement of grain and coal, but a much smaller ore trade than in 1902. Railway operations are still active, with an increase of about 5 per cent shown in gross receipts over November a year ago.

"Evidence accumulates that southern iron has, for the time at least, struck bottom, and this week a slight rebound in asking prices is noted. Other markets are more cheerful in tone, and buying at Chicago has been the best in several months. Finished products note little change. Among other metals, copper is dull and weak, but in better export demand, while tin is stronger. Crude petroleum is again advancing at the west, but refined is unchanged at the east."

Ohio Crops.

Columbus, O., Dec. 4.—Wheat has fallen off from 81 to 78 per cent of a full average condition since November 1. The state crop report issued today puts it at the last mentioned figure. Forty-one per cent of the crop of 1903 was sold as soon as threshed.

The Hessian fly damaged the growing crop two per cent and the white grub one per cent. Early winter and dry weather helped the damage. There were 2,990,827 acres planted in corn this year and the product was 87,107,237 bushels, or 29 bushels per acre. Two per cent of it was put in silos. Thirty-three per cent of the clover acreage for 1902 was cut for seed averaging 1.30 bushels per acre. Apple yield 48 per cent, potatoes 82 bushels per acre. Tobacco 757 pounds per acre. The corn crop for 1902 was 122,675,349, so that this year's yield was 29 per cent of a decrease.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, Dec. 8.—Close.—A heavy liquidation in wheat caused by a heavy selling of longs gave prices of all grains today an easier tone. Trade was quiet. Armour was conspicuous in the market and was a heavy buyer on breaks at Milwaukee as well as Chicago. Wheat closed ¾c to 1¼c lower. Opening wheat prices today were somewhat easier, unchanged to ¼c under yesterday's closing. The Kansas state crop report, which was received early in the day, was a bear feature and made the wheat yield 94,000,000 bushels, nearly double last year's figures. A heavy liquidation set in during the morning on the character of the report and on a heavy reaction from yesterday's better selling. Cables from Liverpool came easier. Trade was quiet. Armour was on the buying side during the morning, but wheat prices at Chicago and at all of the outside markets were lower. The weather map showed favorable conditions for the movement of spring wheat. There is no relief to the drouth in the winter wheat belt. There were light snows in Manitoba, the Dakotas, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska